

MLB

There are plenty of reclamation projects at spring training

Back page

**FACES**

'Captain Marvel' rockets to huge opening weekend

Page 17

**MILITARY**

Fate of US Navy vet held in Iran unclear after reported verdict

Page 5

Report: Taliban leader spent final days near American base » Page 4

STARS AND STRIPES®

stripes.com

Volume 77, No. 233 ©SS 2019

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2019

平成31年4月5日 第三種郵便物認可 日刊(土日除く)
発行所 星条旗新聞社 〒106-0032 東京都港区六本木7丁目23番17号 定価 ¥50

50¢/Free to Deployed Areas

Trump budget proposal asks for \$8.6 billion in wall funding

BY DAMIAN PALETTA,
ERICA WERNER
AND JEFF STEIN
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump released a \$4.7 trillion budget plan Monday that stands as a sharp challenge to Congress and the Democrats trying to unseat him, the first act in a multifront struggle that could consume Washington for the next 18 months.

The budget calls for increased military spending, another in a string of proposals that prompted Democrats to label the budget a nonstarter that will not win congressional support.

If lawmakers and Trump don't reach a spending agreement by the end of September, many government operations will grind to a halt, dramatically raising the possibility of another government shutdown in October.

Trump also used the budget to notify Congress he is seeking an additional \$8.6 billion to build sections of a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Trump's "Budget for a Better America" also includes dozens of spending cuts and policy overhauls that frame the early stages of the debate for the 2020 election.

For example, Trump for the first time calls for cutting \$845 billion from Medicare, the popular health care program for the elderly that he had largely said he would protect.

SEE TRUMP ON PAGE 6

■ The DOD will release budgets for each service Tuesday. Follow developments at stripes.com



Brighter outlook

PHOTOS BY KHALID MOHAMMED/AP

People eat in a restaurant at a shopping mall in Baghdad on Feb. 10. For the first time in years, Iraq is not at war, and many hope that after years of bloodshed the country is starting to turn a corner.

Across Baghdad, a moment of respite and guarded hope

BY QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA
Associated Press

Baghdad's main commercial district has seen more bombings than its residents can count. Death visited almost daily during times of war — most horrifically, a 2015 suicide bombing that ripped through two shopping malls, killing more than 300 people.

But during the past year or so, the residents of Karrada have felt more normal than they have in decades. Streets lined with food stalls are crowded with shoppers, coffee shops and restaurants are packed until late, and the gray concrete blast walls that protected against bombings are being removed.



SEE BRIGHTER ON PAGE 3

Iraqi security forces remove concrete blast walls in Baghdad on Feb. 3.

PACIFIC

Sirens at Misawa mark 8 years since tragedy hit Japan

By SETH ROBSON
Stars and Stripes

Sirens rang out Monday at Misawa Air Base, home of the Air Force's 35th Fighter Wing in northeast Japan, marking the eighth anniversary of a devastating earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disaster that killed more than 15,000 and spurred a relief operation involving 20,000 U.S. servicemembers.

On March 11, 2011 a magnitude 9.0 earthquake set off a destructive tsunami that hit the Tohoku coast, traveling 6 miles inland in places, causing widespread destruction and the release of radioactive plumes from the damaged Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station.

Operation Tomodachi — the U.S. effort to help Japan deal with the aftermath of the disaster — involved sending servicemembers into coastal communities to help locals deal with the destruction.

At Misawa, the closest U.S. base to the disaster zone, sirens sounded at 2:46 p.m. — marking the time that the earthquake struck — before personnel observed a moment of silence.

"We are proud to serve alongside our Japanese counterparts and always prepared to help our partners in times of need," officials said on Misawa's Facebook page.

People stationed there at the time of the disaster responded with comments about their experiences.

"It was a really difficult time, but I was really proud to see the

'We are proud to service alongside our Japanese counterparts and always prepared to help our partners in times of need.'

Misawa Air Base
Facebook post

way the base came together to support our families and our off-base communities," wrote Mike Dashler, who said he was a member of the 35th Operations Group from 2010 to 2011.

Others shared photographs of troops working in the field, a Marine's radiation dosimeter, damaged cars and buildings and donated supplies.

Japanese media reported that 52,000 people who lost their homes in the disaster are still living in shelters.

robson.seth@stripes.com
Twitter: @SethRobson1



BRENNAN O'LOWNEY/Courtesy of the U.S. Marine Corps

U.S. Marines with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit pick up debris on April 2, 2011, during a disaster relief mission at Uranohama Port, Oshima Island, in support of Operation Tomodachi, the U.S. military assistance operation to support Japan in disaster relief following the 2011 earthquake and tsunami.



Debris and wreckage is piled up on March 16, 2011, in Otunato, Japan, after the magnitude 9.0 quake that hit Japan on March 11 caused a tsunami that destroyed anything in its path.

Jeremy Lock/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

TODAY IN STRIPES

American Roundup 16
Business 15
Classified 19, 23
Comics/Crossword 22
Faces 17
Opinion 20-21
Shifting Gears 18
Sports 24-32
Weather 15

STARS AND STRIPES

However you read us,
wherever you need us.

Mobile • Online • Print

EUROPE

ADVERTISING

KRISTI KIMMEL

CustomerService@stripes.com

+49 (0) 0631.3615.9111
DSN: 314.583.9111

MIDDLE EAST

ADVERTISING

KRISTI KIMMEL

CustomerService@stripes.com

+49 (0) 0631.3615.9111
DSN: 314.583.9111

PACIFIC

ADVERTISING

ICHIRO
KATAYANAGI

CustomerHelp@Stripes.com

+81(3) 6385.3267 DSN 315.229.3267

PCSing? STARS AND STRIPES. RELOCATION GUIDE

Every Friday in the European and Pacific editions
of Stars and Stripes AND online daily at
www.stripes.com/relo



WAR ON TERRORISM



Shops and restaurants are open late at night in Baghdad.

PHOTOS BY KHALID MOHAMMED/AP

Brighter: Residents enjoy a sense of cautious confidence

FROM FRONT PAGE

"I used to go to school and come back home, nothing more," said Rusul Mohsen, 33, a middle school teacher who was seated recently at a storefront sipping coffee. "If I went to a restaurant, I would ask to sit in a corner the farthest away from any windows, fearing a car bomb explosion might shatter the glass."

For the first time in 15 years there is no major war or insurgency in Iraq, and the defeat of ISIS in late 2017 after a ruinous four-year war has given the population a moment of respite. Despite the enormous challenges ahead, there is a guarded sense of hope across the capital.

Car bomb explosions that became the norm after the U.S.-led invasion in 2003, making the Iraqi capital's name synonymous with war, have ceased — at least for now. Thousands of concrete barriers that snaked through the city as protection from suicide car bombers have been towed away in trucks, easing traffic.

Army spokesman Brig. Gen. Yahya Rasool said thousands of barriers have been towed away to a plot of land on the outskirts of the city, saying they could be used in the future around Baghdad to protect against infiltration.

The Green Zone

Parts of the heavily fortified Green Zone on the west bank of the Tigris River have reopened to the public, including public access to the landmark "Victory Arch" — a 131-foot-tall arch of two swords held by bronze casts of former dictator Saddam Hussein's hands to commemorate the Iran-Iraq war.

The U.S. established the Green Zone in 2003 to secure its embassy and Iraqi government institutions. But the zone became



Children play at a park in Baghdad last month.

a symbol of the country's inequality, fueling the perception among Iraqis that their government is out of touch.

On the other side of the river, Baghdad's famous Rasheed Street, the capital's oldest street and a cultural center known for its crumbling, old Iraqi houses, has also reopened for cars and pedestrians after a 15-year closure due to security risks.

A new Central Bank headquarters, a towering waterfront building on the banks of the Tigris designed by the late Iraq-born architect Zaha Hadid, is currently under construction, expected to be completed next year.

"Baghdad feels better than it has since 2003," remarked a veteran Western diplomat in Baghdad.

Even so, the country faces massive challenges. ISIS, which is about to lose its last shred of territory in neighboring Syria, is creeping back into Iraq, stepping up insur-

gent-style attacks in areas outside Baghdad and the country's north.

Tens of thousands of people remain displaced, and much of the country is in ruins. The country is plagued by corruption, and in the oil-rich but parched south, violent riots have repeatedly broken out against living conditions.

Baghdad, an ancient metropolis of 8 million people that was once the Arab world's cultural center, is barely functional, its infrastructure crumbling. Armed militias who fought ISIS alongside the Iraqi armed forces roam the streets in what many see as the country's latest menace amid reports of kidnappings for ransom and general lawlessness. Unemployment, poverty and disenfranchised youth are widespread.

"There is a big gap between people's aspirations and the government ability to deliver," the Western diplomat said, speaking on condition of anonymity so he

could speak freely.

Still, many hope that after years of bloodshed, Iraq is starting to turn a corner.

Turning the corner

In Karrada, the Hadi Center — where a 2015 suicide bombing trapped people in a burning inferno for hours, killing about 300 — is full of shoppers, and youngsters fill the food court.

Assem Gharib, owner of a pastries and ice cream shop, said that for years he used to pay someone to supervise the street outside his shop and keep cars from parking in front.

"I used to be frightened whenever a car approached, imagining it to be a suicide bomber or a car bomb. Now it's the opposite; we are happy when a car parks in front of the shop," he said.

That kind of confidence eluded most Iraqis for the past 15 years. The country has been at war, one way or another, for more than a generation, starting with the eight-year Iraq-Iran war that ended in 1988, followed by Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990 and the subsequent military intervention by the U.S.

The worst bloodletting came with the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in 2003, which triggered an al-Qaida-driven insurgency and sectarian violence that washed over the country, killing tens of thousands of Iraqis. Bombings reached up to 10 a day.

The violence culminated with ISIS, an al-Qaida offshoot, seizing Iraqi cities and declaring a self-styled Islamic caliphate over large parts of Iraq and Syria. That triggered a displacement crisis unprecedented in Iraq's history. Millions fled their homes in the face of the militants' rapid advance. Others fled as Iraqi forces, backed by the U.S. and Iran, battled back, ultimately reclaiming the last town in late 2017.

WAR ON TERRORISM

Report: Taliban leader died near US base in Afghanistan

By J.P. LAWRENCE
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — The Taliban have confirmed that their shadowy founder died just a few miles from an American base in Afghanistan — and not in Pakistan as generally believed — even as the Kabul government rejected the claim, which is at the center of a new report from a New York-based research center.

Experts and intelligence analysts have long believed Mullah Mohammad Omar fled to Pakistan after the U.S. invaded Afghanistan in 2001. From there, according to the consensus view, he at some level directed Taliban operations until his death in 2013.

But the Taliban's one-eyed leader may have actually remained in Afghanistan and relinquished direct command of the group, according to the report.

The report's author, long-time Afghanistan researcher Bette Dam, relied on interviews with Mullah Omar's bodyguard as well as members of the Taliban and Afghan security agencies, she wrote.

The report was published over the weekend by the Zomia Center,

a research group affiliated with New America, a nonpartisan think tank in Washington.

Mullah Omar gave up control of the Taliban within days of their defeat and went into hermitic isolation in rural Zabul, an insurgent-friendly province on Afghanistan's southern border with Pakistan. At various points, he lived in houses just miles away from forward operating bases Lagman and Wolaverine, said the report, titled "The Secret Life of Mullah Omar."

Mullah Omar did not trust Pakistan, and would not go there even for medical help, it said.

Dam's book about her own efforts to track down Mullah Omar, "Searching for an Enemy," was published in Dutch in February.

In the Zomia Center report, she disputes the U.S. narrative that Mullah Omar actively commanded Taliban forces while co-operating with al-Qaida militants in Pakistan.

The mullah had almost no interaction with other people until his death except for a few scares in which American troops failed to find his hidden room, the report said.

It noted that The New York Times and Politico had also re-

ported on speculations that Mullah Omar had died in Afghanistan.

The report has received mixed reactions in Kabul, where officials have long blamed Islamabad for insecurity in the region.

A former high-ranking member of the Taliban said he has not read the report but its findings fit what he has heard.

"Mullah Omar did not die in Pakistan," said Hakim Mujahid, member of High Peace Council of Afghanistan and former Taliban representative to the United Nations during their regime. "He suffered somehow but he didn't go anywhere out of the country and died there."

The Taliban founder didn't go to any other country "for a single day," the Taliban said in a statement Monday.

Members of the government in Kabul have rejected the report's claims.

"We strongly reject this delusional claim & we see it as an effort to create & build an identity for the Taliban and their foreign backers," presidential spokesman Haroon Chakhansuri said on Twitter. "We have sufficient evidence which shows he (Mullah Omar) lived & died in #Pakistan."



FBI/AP

In this undated image, Mullah Mohammad Omar is seen in a wanted poster. A new report claims the Taliban's founder died near an American base in Afghanistan and not in Pakistan.

The idea that Mullah Omar would stay in a country swarming with more than 140,000 U.S. and NATO troops seems unlikely, David Petraeus, a former CIA director and onetime U.S. military commander in Afghanistan and Iraq, told the Wall Street Journal.

For its part, the U.S. has long accused Pakistan of harboring the Taliban, including its deadly Haqqani network, and has made foreign aid to the country contingent on a crackdown.

Mullah Omar's successor was killed on the Pakistan side of the border in a 2016 drone strike, and last year Washington canceled about \$300 million in aid after President Donald Trump criticized Islamabad for its counter-

terrorism record.

The Taliban founder's hidden life in Afghanistan, however, suggests a staggering U.S. intelligence failure regarding the group with whom it is now negotiating an end to its 17-year war, the report's author said.

"Remarkably little is known about the men on whom the U.S. is pinning its hopes for peace," Dam wrote, referring to ongoing talks between U.S. and Taliban representatives, including the group's co-founder Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar, in Doha, Qatar.

Zubair Babakarkhail contributed to this report.
lawrence.jp@stripes.com
Twitter: @jplawrence3

US-backed forces make limited advance into ISIS pocket

By PHILIP ISSA
Associated Press

BAGHOUZ, Syria — U.S.-backed Syrian forces made slow advances Monday into the edges of the last village held by Islamic State, battling militants holed up in underground tunnels, a spokesman for the force said.

The battle opened Sunday evening with large explosions and mushroom clouds rising into the air over Baghouz, on the Euphrates River in eastern Syria, as the Syrian Democratic Forces battered the village with artillery and gunfire, hitting an ISIS ammunition dump.

On Monday morning, the thuds of renewed artillery and heavy weapons fire could be heard. An airstrike hit the ISIS-held pocket



MAYA ALLERUEZZO/AP

U.S.-backed Syrian Democratic Forces fighters walk through a tent encampment that had been occupied by Islamic State militants in Baghouz, Syria, on Monday.

around noon.

Some 500 ISIS fighters are believed to be still in the territory,

along with possibly 3,000 to 4,000 civilians, including women and children — mainly family mem-

bers who remained after thousands of civilians streamed out of Baghouz in the past week during pauses in the fighting.

SDF fighters captured an arms depot and marched toward the tent settlement on the edge of Baghouz, Mustafa Bali, of the Kurdish-led SD said in a tweet. He said dozens of ISIS fighters had been killed, and that one SDF fighter was killed and four wounded.

The U.S.-led coalition carried out 11 airstrikes, destroying depots, fortifications and vehicles, and four ISIS militants blew up explosives vests in attempted suicide attacks on SDF positions, damaging a minesweeper, Bali wrote.

The tent camp had been home for many of the thousands of ci-

vilians who had been holed up in Baghouz for weeks. On Monday, an AP team was able to see a part of the camp that had been abandoned earlier. Many tents were damaged and burned, some of them set up over empty trenches and foxholes.

The Associated Press viewed it from a house captured by the SDF that ISIS appeared to have used as a clinic. Medical equipment stood in place still wrapped in its plastic, as well as a microscope still in its box.

The SDF vowed in a statement Monday that operations against ISIS "will continue until we totally wipe them out," saying SDF fighters had made "tangible progress" since Sunday, with 37 militants killed and five SDF fighters wounded.

Clashes erupt in Yemen's key port city following cease-fire

Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen — Fighting erupted in Yemen's key port city of Hodeida on Sunday, the first significant clashes since warring sides agreed to a U.N.-brokered cease-fire deal in December, security officials and eyewitnesses said.

Fires burned on the main front lines in the city's east and south, while exchanges of artillery fire shook buildings in combat with the city out overnight, they said. Both the Shiite Houthi rebels who hold the city

and the government-backed troops who oppose them have been seen erecting barricades and digging defensive trenches.

"All night long, we hear the loud roar of machine guns and artillery, which had been silent for the past two weeks," said resident Ahmed Nasser, adding that he was worried for relatives who had returned to the July 7 neighborhood on the city's eastern front.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity as they weren't authorized to brief journalists, while witnesses did so for fear of

their safety. Ambulances were heard after shelling hit residential neighborhoods, but it was unclear what casualties had resulted.

The fighting comes days after the internationally recognized Yemeni government, along with allies Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, accused the Houthi rebel foes of breaking the cease-fire and refusing to withdraw their forces from the city in line with the December agreement.

Under the agreement, local authorities and police were to run the city and its three

ports under U.N. supervision after all sides pulled out their fighters. Both sides also agreed on a prisoner exchange, but neither of the deals have yet to be implemented.

Yemen's government has been battling the rebels since 2014, when the Houthis swept down from the north and seized the capital, Sanaa. A Saudi-led coalition entered the war on the side of the government in March 2015. The stalemate conflict has killed tens of thousands of people and raised fears of famine.

MILITARY

Report: Verdict issued on Navy vet in Iran

By AMIR VAHDAT
Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran's judiciary has delivered a verdict against U.S. Navy veteran Michael White, who was detained last July in Iran, but there is no information as to what the ruling court said in a sentence of espionage agency reported Monday.

A prosecutor in the northeastern city of Mashhad, Gholamali Sadeghi, was quoted as saying by the Tasnim news agency that the "verdict has been issued" against White and that he faced unspecified security charges.

Sadeghi's remarks counter a February statement by the Iranian Foreign Ministry, which said White faces no security or espionage charge. There was no immediate explanation on the discrepancies.

The report came as Iran's new hard-line judiciary chief, Ebrahim Raisi, took office.

White, who has been held in Mashhad, is the first American known to be detained since Donald Trump became president.

Trump has pursued a maximalist campaign against Tehran that includes America's withdrawal

from Iran's nuclear deal with world powers. Iran has in the past detained Westerners and dual nationals to use them as leverage in negotiations.

White's family says he traveled to Iran to visit his girlfriend — the two met online — and was arbitrarily detained. Joanne White, the detainee's mother, said in January that he was undergoing cancer treatment and that she feared he would not survive prolonged detention.

At least five other American citizens are being held in Iran, including businessman Baquer

Namazi, 81, who has been held for more than two years and has been diagnosed with epilepsy.

Both Baquer Namazi and his son, Siamak Namazi, also a dual national who has been held for more than three years, are serving a 10-year sentence after they were convicted of collaborating with a hostile power.

Iranian-American art dealer Karan Vafadari and his Iranian wife, Afarin Neyssari, received 27-year and 16-year prison sentences, respectively.

Chinese-American graduate student Xiyue Wang was sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Also in an Iranian prison is Nizar Zakka, a permanent U.S. resident from Lebanon who advocated for internet freedom and has done work for the U.S. government.

He was sentenced to 10 years on espionage-related charges.

Former FBI agent Robert Levinson, who vanished in Iran in 2007 while on an unauthorized CIA mission, remains missing as well.

Iran says that Levinson is not in the country and that it has no further information about him, but his family holds Tehran responsible for his disappearance.

A new chapter awaits former chemical weapons depot in Ore.

By JOHN NOTARIANNI
Oregon Public Broadcasting

HERMISTON, Ore. — The giant metal lock is nearly rusted shut on bunker A-903 at the Umatilla Chemical Depot in northeastern Oregon. Once we're able to pry it loose and open the 10-foot tall concrete door, we're walking into a literal time capsule.

Inside the cavernous room, we find boxes and boxes of sealed U.S. Army biscuits, toilet paper, can openers and potable water. One box dates back to January 1964.

A-903 is only one of a thousand identical bunkers sprawling in every direction as far as the eye can see at the depot. The rolling hills of the bunkers can be seen for miles from Interstate 84. The entire site covers nearly 20 square miles; for comparison, that's about the size of the central Oregon city of Bend.

The depot was built in the ramp-up to World War II. For nearly 50 years, 7 million pounds of deadly chemical weapons such as sarin, mustard gas and VX nerve agent were stored here.

Bill Elfering is an Umatilla County commissioner and member of the Columbia Development Authority, the regional board working with the U.S. military to transfer the depot back to local control. He refers to the endless rows of bunkers as "igloos," a strangely cute name for rooms built to house weapons of war. As we tour the site, Elfering points out how they were built in staggered rows.

"There was a concern that one might set the whole thing off and it would be like a string of firecrackers on the Fourth of July," he said. "All of a sudden it just went 'pop, pop, pop.'"

The staggered design was proven to work in 1944 when one of the igloos did explode, killing six people. At the time, the depot's administrators were only able to tell who had been killed in the blast by having everyone on site clock out after the explosion and then tracking which time cards were left.

"I think the earth would still be shaking if they were to all go off," Elfering said.

A time-consuming transition

It's been years since weapons were actually stored at the Umatilla Chemical Depot. A 1993 United Nations resolution banned all use and storage of chemical weapons. In 2004, a massive furnace was built on the property, and all of the weapons were incinerated. The depot officially closed in 2012.

The property was supposed to return to local control in 2015, but even today, much of the land remains in the hands of the military.

That could be about to change. After years of negotiations, locals are cautiously optimistic that much of the depot's land will soon be back in local control.

Dr. David Drotzman is the mayor of the nearby town of Hermiston. Hundreds of people from the neighboring community worked at the depot when it was in operation, and a lot of those jobs are gone.

"Were those some good paying jobs? Absolutely," he said. "And have they been replaced with the same level of jobs? Maybe, maybe not."

He's eager to see new development.

"Everybody's wish list is Costco. 'When can we get a Costco out there?'" he said. "I think any employer that provides an opportunity for good paying — above you know the state average wages."

The plan to redevelop the depot has several parts. The first phase, converting a portion of the land to a National Guard training center, is well underway. Portions of the land will also be designated as a large nature preserve.

But Elfering says the biggest economic boon could come from developing two stretches of industrial land. The depot lies at the intersection of interstates 84 and 82, giving it great potential as a transit hub.

"You go 185 miles or 180 miles to the west, and you're in Portland," Elfering said. "You go a couple hundred miles to the northwest, you're in Seattle. You go a couple hundred miles to the northeast, you're in Spokane. If you go to the southwest, you're in Boise."

Drotzman said that type of development could provide a huge boost to his community.

"Most of those people will be either living here or doing business here, buying their groceries or doing their doctor visit with us," he said. "So it will have a significant impact, and we need to be prepared. We want to start that process, and so that's where the frustration comes from."

While the years of delays have been frustrating to many locals, another group has been waiting much longer to return to the site.

Chuck Sams is with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation. The depot runs through his nation's hunting and gathering lands, including the religiously significant Coyote Coulee. He's eager to see the land return to the tribes so they can begin rehabilitating it.

"There's been wildfires that have went through there," he said. "It's burnt the shrub-steppe habitat. So there's a lot of cheatgrass and foreign species. We want to reclaim the land and put more natural species in there."

Elfering said the number of stakeholders has made what initially looked like a straightforward process much more cumbersome.

Each group has had its own specific interests at heart: protecting natural areas, preserving sacred lands, providing security for military assets and making sure the economic benefits are evenly distributed. Those competing interests have occasionally led to gridlock. But, Elfering said the coalition is closer than ever to an agreement.

"We need one more piece of paper, maybe two more pieces of paper that say it meets their objectives," he said.

Until then, the 1,000 bunkers at the Umatilla Chemical Depot remain empty — aside from the occasional stash of vintage army supplies.



AP

An inspector checks missiles containing sarin gas for leaks in a bunker at the Umatilla Chemical Depot in Hermiston, Ore. The depot officially closed in 2012 and, after years of negotiations, locals are hopeful that much of its land soon will be back in local control.

INJURED?
CIVILIAN WORKERS
(INCLUDING NON-US CITIZENS)

KNOW AND PROTECT YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS
D.B.A./N.A.E. ATTORNEYS

www.injuredoverseas.com

Phone: 954.920.7400

US Toll Free: 888.732.7425

LAW OFFICES OF BARNETT & LERNER, P.A.

FREE CONSULTATION

NATION

Milwaukee to host Dems' 2020 convention

Site selection reflects party's focus on region that sent Trump to White House

By BILL BARROW,
IVAN MORENO
AND SCOTT BAUER
Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Democrats selected Milwaukee to host their 2020 national convention Monday, setting up the party's 2020 standard-bearer to accept the presidential nomination in the heart of the old industrial belt that delivered Donald Trump to the White House.

Democratic National Committee Chairman Tom Perez chose Milwaukee over Houston and Miami after deliberations lingered longer than party leaders or officials from the three finalist cities had expected.

The convention is scheduled for

“We are ready to reinvest in the Midwest.”

Mandela Barnes
Wisconsin lieutenant governor

July 13-16, 2020.

It will be the first time in more than a century that Democrats will be in a Midwest city other than Chicago to nominate their presidential candidate. Instead, the political spotlight will shine for a week on a metro area of about 1.6 million people.

Once dubbed “The Machine Shop of the World,” the famously working-class city also is known for its long love affair with beer and as the birthplace of Harley-Davidson motorcycles.

Republicans are set to gather in Charlotte, the largest city in battleground North Carolina, on Aug. 24-27, 2020.

Democrats see plenty of symbolism in Milwaukee after a bitter 2016 election defined by Hillary Clinton being nearly swept in what her campaign aides had confidently called a “Blue Wall” across the upper Midwest and Great Lakes region. That band of states twice sided with President Barack Obama, but Clinton held only Minnesota, ceding

Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio and Pennsylvania—a combined 64 of the necessary 270 electoral votes — as white working-class voters flocked to Trump.

The president won Wisconsin and its 10 electoral votes by about 23,000 votes out of almost 3 million cast, the first time since 1984 that Republicans claimed the state in a presidential election. Afterward, Clinton took withering criticism for not once visiting Wisconsin as a general election candidate.

Since then, Wisconsin voters have re-elected Democratic Sen. Tammy Baldwin, ousted Republican Gov. Scott Walker in favor of Democrat Tony Evers and elected the state's first black lieutenant governor, Mandela Barnes.

Wisconsin Democrats pointed to those midterm election results as they lobbied Perez and DNC officials, and presidential candidates already are paying attention. Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar came to Wisconsin in one of her first trips as a declared candidate.

“A lot of people feel that we lost (in 2016) because this area had been ignored — whether it's from a political standpoint or whether it's from a governing standpoint,” said Barnes, one of the members of the convention bid committee.

Holding the convention in Milwaukee, Barnes added, says “we are ready to reinvest in the Midwest, that the Midwest matters again.”

Trump: New budget forecasts a \$1 trillion increase in deficit

FROM FRONT PAGE

His budget would also propose a major overhaul of Medicaid, the health care program for low-income Americans run jointly with states, by turning more power over to states. This would cut spending by \$241 billion over 10 years.

Other agencies, particularly the Environmental Protection Agency, State Department, Transportation Department, and Interior Department, would see their budgets severely reduced.

“With severe cuts to essential programs and services that would leave our nation less safe and secure, the Trump budget is as dangerous as it is predictable. It has no chance in the House,” House Budget Committee Chairman John Yarmuth, D-Ky., said ahead of the document's release.

Trump's GOP allies received the budget plan with a lukewarm embrace.

“The president's annual budget proposal is the first step in the federal budget process and will allow us to consider how his priorities align with the priorities of Congress,” said Senate Budget Committee Chairman Mike Enzi, R-Wyo. “I look forward to working with my colleagues and the president to curb federal overspending and help bring our deficits and debt under control.”

Over the next 10 years the budget would spend \$56 trillion.

More broadly, Trump's budget would impose mandatory work requirements for millions of people who receive welfare assistance while dramatically increasing the defense budget to \$750 billion next year, a 5 percent increase from 2019.

Trump and other Republicans have said the federal budget is full of waste and that many federal agencies could still perform their functions with less taxpayer assistance. Even though they have proposed budget cuts before, only to be rejected by Congress, his top advisers want to dig in on the cuts this year, convinced Americans will support them.

According to Trump's budget, the spending cuts would do little to reduce what is shaping up to be a colossal deficit in the next several years. The budget would spend much more money than it brings in through revenue, and that gap is called the deficit.

The budget foresees a \$1.1 trillion deficit in 2020 and 2021, and a \$1 trillion deficit in 2022.



PHOTOS BY J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

Office of Management and Budget staff deliver President Donald Trump's 2020 budget outline to the House Budget Committee on Capitol Hill in Washington on Monday.

“With severe cuts to essential programs and services that would leave our nation less safe and secure ... [the Trump budget] has no chance in the House.”

John Yarmuth
House budget chairman



House Budget Committee Chair John Yarmuth, D-Ky., walks through the Capitol in Washington on Monday morning as Trump's 2020 budget is delivered to his committee.

These deficits will add to the existing \$22 trillion debt and put further strain on the budget. For example, the White House now projects the government will spend \$482 billion on interest payments for the debt next year, more than the entire budget for Medicaid, which provides health care benefits for millions of people.

Republicans have long called for taking

cuts on the campaign trail.

There is a crowded field of Democrats seeking to win their party's primary to challenge Trump next November. While Trump has called for boosting the military, cutting taxes and cutting the budgets of domestic agencies and social welfare programs, many of the Democrats have proposed something much different.

Several have called for raising taxes on the wealthiest Americans, expanding access to Medicare and providing more benefits that help pay for college.

White House officials believe Trump's economic agenda has proven very successful so far, leading to job growth, higher wages and economic growth. But critics have alleged that he achieved that in part through huge levels of fiscal stimulus, including tax cuts and spending increases, that have widened the deficit and adding several trillion dollars to the government's debt.

The budget does reflect the changing nature of Trump's agenda since taking office.

He has continued to try to pump more money into the military and border security programs, and the budget provides funding for the creation of a “Space Force” and a U.S. Space Command, ideas Trump has personally pushed even while he ran into some resistance from military leaders and congressional Republicans.

While the Democratic rivals for the White House next year ramp up their attacks on his policy agenda, Democrats in Congress are planning to challenge him in the coming months on his budget plan. In addition to the Sept. 30, 2019, deadline to reach a spending agreement, lawmakers believe they will also need to reach an agreement to raise the debt ceiling around that time.

The debt ceiling is a borrowing cap established by Congress, and it prohibits the Treasury Department from issuing more debt. The government is bumping up against the debt limit now, and the Treasury Department has been trying to persuade Congress to buy more time so Congress can eventually vote to raise it. Several lawmakers have said they expect the debt ceiling to be raised as part of a broader budget deal this summer or fall.

But if budget talks bog down later this year amid a fight over border wall funding, it could force lawmakers to rethink this timeline and their entire approach.

steps that shrink — or even eliminate — the deficit, and putting forward a plan that would create \$4.3 trillion in new debt over four years could give Democrats fresh tar-

NATION



BEBETO MATTHEWS/AP

Jack Donson, president of My Federal Prison Consultant, walks outside a Manhattan courthouse on March 1 in New York. Donson advocates greater scrutiny of the prison consultant industry.

Indictments spotlight prison rehab scams

By DAVE COLLINS
Associated Press

It's a tip that has been passed onto convicts for years: On your way to federal prison, say you have a substance abuse problem, and you could qualify for a treatment program that knocks up to a year off your sentence.

Federal prosecutors have long suspected abuses in the program, which has enrolled a deep list of high-profile convicts. Recently, a grand jury in Connecticut indicted three people accused of coaching ineligible convicts on how to get into the Residential Drug Abuse Program, or RDAP, by telling them to show up to prison intoxicated and fake withdrawal symptoms. The charges are among the first filed against prison consultants involving the program.

The case has put a spotlight on the unregulated world of prison consulting, in which some ex-convicts and former prison employees charge thousands of dollars for their inside knowledge to help people prepare for life behind bars. Some consultants say there has been wrongdoing in the industry for decades, including encouraging clients to scam their way into the rehab program.

The small industry now is "totally the Wild West," said Jack Donson, president of New York-based My Federal Prison Consultant and a retired federal Bureau of Prisons employee.

"I hope it brings light to things,"

he said, referring to the Connecticut case. "I hope it gives people ... pause to not cross that line to illegality and unethical conduct."

Completing the nine-month, 500-hour treatment program for nonviolent offenders is one of only a few ways inmates can get their sentences reduced. About 15,600 inmates — nearly 10 percent of the current federal prison population — participated in the program last year, and thousands more are on waiting lists. To get in, convicts must present evidence they had substance abuse or addiction problems during the year prior to their arrest. Upon completion, their sentences can be reduced and they can spend the last six months of their sentences in a halfway house.

Christopher Mattei, a former federal prosecutor in Connecticut, said the U.S. attorney's office increasingly saw white-collar convicts make use of the program.

"It undermines the public's confidence that all people when they go before a court for sentencing will be treated fairly. People who know how to game the system know how to get the benefits, whereas people who are struggling with addiction don't know all the angles to play," Mattei said.

Donson and other consultants say more monitoring of the industry and prosecutions would help deter misconduct.

Attorney says tape may show R. Kelly sex abuse

By STEPHEN R. GROVES
Associated Press

NEW YORK — A man who said he was cleaning out an old videotape collection found what he thought was a recording of R&B singer R. Kelly in concert but instead turned out to show a man who appeared to be Kelly sexually abusing girls, he and his attorney said Sunday.

The man then turned the tape over to law enforcement, according to attorney Gloria Allred. She and her client, Gary Dennis, would not discuss the specifics of the tape during a news conference in New York. But Allred said it appears to show a separate incident from the 10 counts of aggravated sexual abuse that Kelly faces in Chicago, though she acknowledged she could not be "100 percent certain" that the man in the tape is Kelly.

Steve Greenberg, an attorney for Kelly, noted that lack of certainty.

"The doubt here is self-evident, with reporting that the man on the tape kinda, sorta looks like R. Kelly," Greenberg said Sunday in an email. "That doesn't make it him. It is not him."

The lawyer also said Kelly "denies that he is on any tape with underage girls."

"It is obviously now just open season on R. Kelly," Greenberg said.

Dennis, an assistant at a nurs-



KEVIN HAGEN/AP

Gary Dennis, seated with attorney Gloria Allred, speaks at a press conference on Saturday in New York announcing a videotape said to present further evidence of wrongdoing by recording artist R. Kelly.

ing home, said he was cleaning out a box of old VHS tapes in his Pennsylvania home recently when he found the footage, on a tape that was labeled with Kelly's name. Dennis said he has never met Kelly and doesn't know how the tape came to be in his possession. He said that because the tape also has a sports game on it, he believes it may have come from a friend.

"To my shock and surprise, R. Kelly appeared to be on the tape, but not in concert," Dennis said. "Instead he was sexually abusing underage African-American

girls."

"I was disgusted and horrified when I saw that," Dennis said.

Allred said they assume the girls in the video were underage because they didn't appear to have developed.

The charges Kelly faces in Chicago are in connection with three girls and one woman. Prosecutors have said they have video of Kelly sexually abusing one of the girls.

Allred encouraged anyone who was in possession of similar tapes to come forward, either to her or to law enforcement.

Banks bow out of immigrant detentions

By TRACY JAN
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's "zero tolerance" immigration policies are forcing corporate America into a tricky calculus: Embrace the business opportunities presented by the expanded immigration detention regime or heed the backlash from the public and even their own employees.

Last week, JPMorgan Chase, the nation's largest bank, became the latest major corporation to distance itself from Trump's immigration policies, concluding that its investments in private detention centers conflicted with its broader business strategy.

"We will no longer bank the private prison industry," said spokesman Andrew Gray in a statement.

The announcement follows similar moves by Wells Fargo and U.S. Bank, which told The Washington Post that they are in the process of quietly divesting from the private detention sector.

Activists, who waged a two-year campaign against JPMorgan's investments, hope that mounting public pressure will prod other

financial giants, such as Bank of America, to follow suit. But they acknowledge that it's much harder to persuade tech firms such as Amazon, Palantir and Microsoft to withdraw from lucrative federal contracts with agencies charged with mass surveillance and deportation.

"It will all boil down at the end of the day to whether or not the profit or potential profit is worth the risk, including public exposure," said Charles Geist, an economics and finance professor at Manhattan College.

JPMorgan, amid an aggressive expansion of its retail presence, concluded that it was not. The bank's decision to divest from private prison operators CoreCivic and GEO Group, first reported by Reuters, came after a dogged effort by immigrant rights groups. Protesters picketed JPMorgan CEO Jamie Dimon's Manhattan apartment with a mariachi band and, at another demonstration, a sound system blasting recorded cries of separated immigrant children begging for their parents.

They disrupted shareholder meetings and delivered petitions imploring the bank to "break up

with private prison companies."

JPMorgan ultimately determined that the financial and reputational risks weren't worth the investment.

"They want to build a customer base by opening many branches," said Stephen Lerner, a community organizer and fellow at Georgetown University's Kalmannovitz Initiative for Labor and the Working Poor. "Investing in private prisons doesn't help them in immigrant communities. The mood of the country is that the vast majority of people don't support having families interned or having children separated from their families."

Trump's immigration policies are largely unpopular with the general public but well-received among his fellow Republicans, according to national polls. In a Quinnipiac poll last week, 58 percent of voters disapproved of Trump's handling of immigration issues while 40 percent approved.

Other banks are backing away from financing private prisons, where the number of immigrant detainees is increasing under the Trump administration.

NATION

Church that was shelter holds first service since storm

Ala. parish became a center for help and grieving after tornado killed 23

Associated Press

BEAUREGARD, Ala. — The pastor of a church that became a center for shelter, help and grieving when a tornado killed 23 people in eastern Alabama said in his first Sunday service after the storm that the Lord has reached out his hand to the community.

Imperfect things like tornadoes and other tragedies happen because we live in an imperfect world, Providence Baptist Church Pastor Rusty Sowell said Sunday.

His sermon focused on the Bible verse Isaiah 41:13: "For I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you."

Nearly 100 people safely rode out the March 3 storm in the church, which then became a center for donations and the place where Sowell and the county coroner told families they had lost loved ones.

On Sunday, 23 crosses sat outside the country church, one for each victim of the huge EF4 tornado that roared through Beauregard a few hours after last Sunday's services with 170 mph winds and a path nearly a mile wide.

As she sat in a pew Sunday, Cindy Samford said all her emotions hit her suddenly. She lost her home in the storm hours after last week's service.

"I'm heartbroken by the loss of lives and the devastation of it all. Today in church was a confirma-

tion of faith that God was watching over us. God has his hands on us," Samford said.

President Donald Trump visited the church Friday as he looked at the damage, signing Bibles for some victims there seeking help.

Sowell said it was easy to speak badly about the president and

wondered if some of those who criticized Trump for the signings owned Bibles.

"My first thought is if that is what you are worried about, bring your raggedy self down here to our corner of the world and

get to work," Sowell said to applause from the packed congregation.

"The ones that are running their mouths are not down here getting their hand dirty, walking alongside the walking wounded."

But most of Sowell's sermon was how God reaches out his hand in times of need. He talked about how the church built a second building across the street with showers, a full kitchen and a large gathering space after the area was devastated by Hurricane Opal in 1995 and could not get help.

That building became the cen-



PHOTOS BY VASHA HUNT/AP

Above: Senior Pastor Rusty Sowell gives a sermon Sunday at Providence Baptist Church in Beauregard, Ala. Sunday church services were a step toward normalcy as the community continues to recover following deadly tornadoes that hit the area. Below, from left: Kathi Pierce, Joyce Ross and Tammy Johnson gather food packages for volunteers and victims of the March 3 tornadoes.



ter of the relief efforts after the tornado.

"This is why this building is here," Sowell said. "And God knew."

Carolyn Thrower said being at Providence Baptist on Sunday was awe-inspiring, knowing they were helping to show God's love

and healing.

"Church always helps, but today it was a special blessing," she said.

Supplies continue to pour into the church, and Sowell said he was amazed at the generosity of people, even if Providence Baptist was dealing with a problem

many places face after a disaster — too much donated water and clothing.

"Please, we don't need any more," Sowell said of the thousands of cases of water and bags of clothes. "In fact, everyone here gets to carry home a case of water."



What's Your Story?

STARS AND STRIPES

Month of the Military Child

Let's Celebrate by Sharing Your Story!

Stories will be...

- Featured on our new website militarychild.stripes.com.
- Published selectively in our Global Edition in April.
- Printed in Stars and Stripes Pacific's community papers.



LAKELAND UNIVERSITY JAPAN

Submit Today: militarychild.stripes.com

You have a chance to win a \$300 gift card!

STARS AND STRIPES



CAST

YOUR VOTE!

to determine the annual BEST OF THE PACIFIC!

Vote online by March 24 at

bestofpacific.stripes.com



NATION

Kan. pushes to promote Bob Dole to Army colonel

By SHERMAN SMITH

The Topeka (Kan.) Capital-Journal

Members of the Kansas delegation to Congress are working to advance the decorated military career of Bob Dole, the former U.S. senator who was badly wounded as a soldier in World War II.

The U.S. Senate last week passed legislation sponsored by Sen. Pat Roberts and Sen. Jerry Moran that would promote the 95-year-old from captain to colonel in the Army.

U.S. Rep. Roger Marshall, from Kansas' 1st District, is pushing for the bill to gain traction in the House.

"I am humbled to know that my friends in the Kansas delegation made it a priority to honor me in this way," Dole said. "I was certainly proud to serve in the U.S. Army during World War II — alongside many heroes who never returned to American soil. To me personally, this legislation is a shared honor."

Dole joined the Army Enlisted Reserve Corps in 1942 and was called to active duty the following year. He was deployed to Italy as



Meredith Tibbitts/Stars and Stripes

Members of Congress from Kansas are pushing legislation to promote WWII veteran and former Sen. Bob Dole, shown at an event in Washington in November, from U.S. Army captain to colonel.

an infantry lieutenant in the 10th Mountain Division, and he was wounded in 1945 when German machine-gun fire struck him in the upper back and right arm.

Dole was cited for acts of heroism under fire and received two Purple Hearts and the Bronze Star. His injuries left him with numbness in his left arm and limited mobility in his right arm, which he minimized in public by holding a pen in his right hand.

"Bob Dole is an American hero and Kansas' favorite son," Roberts said. "I'm proud my colleagues in the Senate acted quickly to pass this important legislation, which will give Senator Dole the military promotion he has earned during his decades of service to our country."

Dole won election to the Kan-

sas Legislature in 1950 and became the Russell County attorney two years later. He represented Kansas in the U.S. House from 1961 to 1969, then spent the next 27 years in the U.S. Senate. He stepped down in 1996 when he became the Republican nominee for president.

In Congress, he cosponsored bills to improve veterans benefits, improve accountability for missing members of the Armed Forces and recognize female veterans, among other initiatives.

"I can think of no one more worthy of an honorary promotion to the rank of colonel in the United States Army than Senator Bob Dole, who has for decades served our country with the utmost distinction," Moran said.

Vet notified of cancer 10 months after test

By KATIE MOORE

The Topeka (Kan.) Capital-Journal

An inspection at the Leavenworth VA Medical Center found that a patient with a possible malignancy result was notified by a physician 288 days after the test was completed.

Ten months after the initial CT scan, the patient was diagnosed with stage three lung cancer with the possibility of metastatic disease. The patient died in summer 2017, according to the Office of the Inspector General's report.

The inspection was initiated after an individual made an allegation in November 2017 about delays in a lung cancer diagnosis and reporting of an abnormal radiology test.

The complainant also said a provider falsely documented the patient initially wasn't willing to have the test conducted. The OIG substantiated the claims, finding that the patient never refused the test or intervention.

Three subsequent allegations were unsubstantiated.

The OIG conducted a site visit on June 4-7, 2018.

The agency determined the patient's records weren't assigned the appropriate code for

follow-up.

Officials examined cases with the follow-up notification and found that 45 out of 249 veterans — or 18 percent — didn't receive communication of the results within the required time frame or that the results weren't documented in their electronic health records. The OIG concluded there was evidence of ongoing care and the patients didn't suffer adverse outcomes because of the delays.

According to the VA's policy, test results requiring action must be communicated in seven calendar days. Normal results must be communicated within 14 days.

The inspection also found radiologists didn't receive training on new diagnostic codes or software that generates notifications.

Five recommendations were issued on training, timely communication and adherence to other VA policies.

Joe Burks, spokesman for VA Eastern Kansas Health Care System, said the Leavenworth hospital has undergone changes to simplify diagnostic coding, train employees and update their policies to prevent similar issues in the future.

STAY LONGER SAVE MORE

2 NIGHTS = 20% OFF
3 NIGHTS = 30% OFF
4 NIGHTS = 40% OFF
IN THE HEART OF SEOUL

RESERVE NOW
AND SAVE!!!



MUST BE CONSECUTIVE NIGHTS BOOK
BOOKING ONLY APPLIES TO THE ROOM RATE.
VALID JANUARY THROUGH MARCH 2019. ADDITIONAL RULES MAY APPLY.
LIMITED AMOUNT OF ROOMS AVAILABLE AT SPECIAL RATE.
SPECIAL MAY END WITHOUT NOTICE.
VALID FOR ALL BOOKS. SPECIAL NOT AUTOMATICALLY APPLIED.
MUST MENTION BOOKING CODE: **SAVEMORE**
DIN: 730-9333 CORN / (82-0) 730-9333
WWW.DRAGONHILLLODGE.COM



DRAGON HILL LODGE
Seoul, Korea
An Armed Forces Recreation Center

NATION

Donor claimed she could offer access to Trump, Fla. club

Associated Press

PALM BEACH, Fla. — A company run by a donor to President Donald Trump claimed it could provide Chinese clients with a chance to mingle and take photos with the president, along with access to his private club in Palm Beach.

It remains unclear how much Li Yang charged for the services and whether she was ever hired to provide them.

The company's claims and other eyebrow-raising activity, first reported by The Miami Herald and Mother Jones, mark the latest in a litany of complications and ethical issues stemming from Trump continuing to own and operate a private club where dues-paying members and their guests

rub shoulders with the president and his family, friends, White House staff and members of his Cabinet.

The Associated Press has previously reported that aides who accompany the president on frequent trips to the club are always on alert for club members and guests who like to buttonhole the president.

GY US Investments LLC, a company Yang registered in 2017, according to Florida state documents, describes itself on a now-defunct, mostly Chinese website as an international business consulting firm. The firm "provides public relations services to assist businesses in America to establish and expand their brand image

A donor to President Donald Trump claimed she could provide access to the president's Mar-a-Lago estate, above, in Palm Beach, Fla.

in the modern Chinese marketplace," according to a translation of the page accessed through an internet archive service.

That has included, the website claims, access to presidential dinners and roundtables, White House events, photo opportunities and "VIP" activities including the "opportunity to interact with the president, the Minister of Commerce and other political figures."

The site also featured numerous photographs, including a picture of Trump's Mar-a-Lago club and photographs of Yang with Trump, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, Transportation Secretary

Elaine Chao and former White House aide Sebastian Gorka.

Yang is described on the website as the company's "Founder CEO," as well as a member of a "Presidential Fundraising Committee" and a "presidential club member."

Yang and the company did not respond to messages seeking comment, nor did the Trump Organization, Mar-a-Lago club or the Republican National Committee.

The Herald on Friday also published a photo of Yang with Trump at a Super Bowl party at his West Palm Beach country club and reported on the link between Yang and the spa where New England

Patriots owner Robert Kraft was charged with soliciting prostitution. Yang was a former owner of the spa.

Yang wasn't charged in a multi-agency anti-human trafficking operation that resulted in 25 arrests, including Kraft's, and shut down 10 Asian day spas in South Florida last month.

None of the spas is registered to Yang or her family. She sold the Jupiter spa to Hua Zhang around 2013. Zhang was charged with racketeering and running a house of prostitution and has pleaded not guilty.

Yang's family still owns several South Florida spas.



SUSAN WALSH/AP

Schiff says Mueller should demand Trump testimony

By KAROUN DEMIRJIAN
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The chairman of the House Intelligence Committee said Sunday that special counsel Robert Mueller was making a "mistake" by not demanding that President Donald Trump testify as part of his investigation, which by many accounts may soon be nearing its end.

Speaking on NBC's "Meet the Press," Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Calif., acknowledged that it might be expedient for Mueller to avoid subpoenaing Trump's testimony because the president could fight it and Mueller's new boss, Attorney General William Barr, might oppose such a move.

"But I do think, ultimately, it's a mistake because probably the best way to get the truth would be to put the president under oath," Schiff said. "As he's made plain in the past, he feels it's perfectly fine to lie to the public. After all, he has said, 'I don't like I'm talking before a magistrate.' Well, maybe he should talk before a magistrate."

Schiff also said he is deferring to Mueller on whether Erik Prince, a former Navy SEAL who created the controversial Blackwater security company, lied to Congress about his involvement in the Trump campaign.

The House Intelligence Committee spoke with Prince in 2017 about his meeting in January that year with Kirill Dmitriyev, head of the Russian Direct Investment Fund. The meeting was organized by the United Arab Emirates. Prince presented the meeting to congressional investigators as a series of coincidences and insisted to the committee that he played no formal or informal role in Trump's campaign or transition team.

But Prince admitted during an interview with Al Jazeera last week to participating in an August 2016 meeting at Trump Tower.

He never disclosed that to the House Intelligence Committee, and the admission has revived suspicions that Prince lied to Congress under penalty of perjury.

In the Al Jazeera interview, Prince insisted that he disclosed the August meeting to investigators, despite no mention of it in the public transcript — something Prince explained by suggesting the transcript must be wrong.

"He's certainly not telling the truth in that interview," Schiff said. "There's nothing wrong with our transcript... He did not disclose that meeting to our committee. So his, you know, interview certainly looks inconsistent with his testimony."

But Schiff stopped short of accusing Prince of perjury, leaving those questions to Mueller.

"Bob Mueller will have to make the decision about whether that rises to a level of deliberate falsehood," Schiff said. "But we had questions at the time of his testimony about his candor and how forthcoming he was. And those questions have only been heightened now."

Schiff is not the only member of the Intelligence Committee who says Prince was not truthful with investigators.

"He beyond strained credibility in the interview," panel member Mike Quigley, D-Ill., said when reached for comment Saturday. "He's full of it; he's always been full of it... You can't trust him."

"Opinion only, but I think he is a liar," said panel member Jackie Speier, D-Calif.

Lying to Congress is a crime that has resulted in legal charges against Trump's longtime friend, Roger Stone, and his former lawyer and fixer, Michael Cohen.



Schiff



ANDREW HARRER/Bloomberg

Rep. Liz Cheney, R-Wyo., shown at a November news conference in Washington, opposes a Trump administration plan to demand that countries hosting U.S. troops pay significantly more money to the U.S.

Lawmaker blasts proposal that allies pay more to host US troops

By JENNIFER A. DLOUHY
Bloomberg

A top Republican blasted the Trump administration's potential demand that countries pay the full cost of hosting U.S. troops and then some, saying it's a "wrong-headed" move that would jeopardize both national security and relationships with allies.

"It would be absolutely devastating," Rep. Liz Cheney, of Wyoming, who heads the House Republican Conference and serves on the Armed Services Committee, said Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Cheney was responding to a Bloomberg News report on Friday that the administration is developing so-called "cost plus 50" plans to force countries to pay the full price of American soldiers deployed on their soil, plus an additional 50 percent or more for the privilege. Nations hosting American forces could see their tab climb five to six times their current costs.

"We benefit tremendously" by stationing

soldiers in South Korea, Japan, Germany and other countries, Cheney said. "The notion that we are now going to somehow charge them 'cost plus 50' is really — it's wrongheaded, and it would be devastating to the security of the nation and our allies."

Trump's planned proposal is in line with his efforts to encourage U.S. allies to boost their defense spending. But it's stoked concerns among diplomats and security experts who fear any "cost plus 50" demand would be an affront to allies in Asia and Europe who already question the depth of Trump's commitment to them.

Cheney vowed to oppose the move in Congress. Asked whether fellow Republicans would join her in rejecting the plan, given their tendency to not buck the president on most matters, she said politicians must be aware of the security dividends the U.S. gets from having troops stationed abroad.

"It's going to be very important for us to make sure that people understand the danger that that will do to our relationships and to our fundamental security," Cheney said.

NATION

Calif. police report almost no racial profiling

Small number prompts desire for changes to encourage more people to come forward

By DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — California's first-in-the-nation attempt to track racial profiling complaints against police produced numbers so unrealistically small that the board overseeing the tally wants departments to make changes to encourage more people to come forward.

The panel's most recent report found 17 percent of California's law enforcement agencies reported not a single complaint in 2017.

Of 659 profiling complaints that were filed in a state of nearly 40 million people, just 10 were sustained. Three-quarters of the profiling complaints involve race or ethnicity, but they can also include age, gender, religion, physical or mental disability or sexual orientation.

The people who share leadership of the California Racial and Identity Profiling Advisory Board are divided over the seriousness of the problem and whether changes are needed based on the results of the second annual report.

Andrea Guerrero, executive director of the advocacy group Alliance San Diego, doesn't believe the numbers and thinks it might be the result of police protecting their own.

"We know we have a profiling problem in the state," she said.

Her co-chair, Kings County Sheriff David Robinson, disputed that. He said the numbers reflect the reality that it's "so rare and far between that someone is racist."

Under current standards, people who lodge formal complaints generally must use their name to report concerns that can range from an officer being rude or disrespectful to false arrests or racially targeted traffic stops. Often, they must go to a police station and fill out a form.

Robinson said most people prefer a more informal process that often doesn't show up in official statistics, like having a police supervisor hear the complaint and talk to the officer.

Recommendations

The panel has recommended that local agencies allow anonymous and third-party complaints to shield victims from retaliation while making it easier to file complaints, including by providing materials in many languages.

There should be follow-ups so complainants don't feel they're being ignored, Guerrero said, and civilian oversight panels with "teeth in them" should oversee complaint investigations.

Plumas County Sheriff's Deputy Ed Obayashi, an expert on use-of-force policies who teaches other law enforcement personnel around the state, said the racial numbers don't reflect reality,

but he discounted any nefarious intent.

In Southern California, the San Diego County Sheriff's Department, where Obayashi used to work, reported just one racial profiling complaint in 2017, while the Riverside County Sheriff's Department had seven. About 3.34 million people live in San Diego County, while the population of Riverside County, which includes the cities of Riverside and Palm Springs, is about 2.42 million.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, the United States' largest sheriff's agency, recorded 31.

"There's no way," Obayashi said. "People who see this report are going to say, 'They're covering this up.'"

He and others blamed conservative reporting policies that leave out informal complaints, coupled with "complaint fatigue" by people who are too frightened to complain or believe they'll be ignored.

Proving a complaint is even tougher, he said.

"To sustain a complaint would require the officer to say, 'I stopped that motorist because he was black or Hispanic.' And what officer is going to admit to that?" Obayashi said.

Perceptions

The 7,400-officer California Highway Patrol reported just 24 profiling complaints from nearly 4 million contacts with the public. None was substantiated by the department, which board member Warren Stanley, the CHP's first black commissioner, said shows the professionalism of the agency's personnel.

Morgan Hill Police Chief David Swing, who represents police chiefs on the board, said he isn't surprised by the low reported statewide numbers.

"There are some that may have, or had, a perception that there are more racial or identity profiles being made, but the data that we have doesn't bear that out," Swing said.

In Sacramento, the department reported 18 civilian complaints in 2017, none of them alleging racial or identity profiling.

"We actually get a lot more than that," acknowledged Sacramento police spokesman Sgt. Vance Chandler. But the department counts only formal complaints that under state law could result in an officer being disciplined, omitting what it calls informal inquiries.

"There's no way. People who see this report are going to say, 'They're covering this up.'"

Ed Obayashi
Plumas County, Calif., deputy and expert on use-of-force policies



PHOTOS BY RICH PEDRONCELLI/AP

Protester Alexander Clark, who is not related to Stephen Clark, disrupts the Sacramento (Calif.) City Council during a meeting March 5. Community members expressed anger over the decision not to file criminal charges against the two police officers involved in the fatal shooting of Stephen Clark last year.



Protesters shouting "Black lives matter!" hold up photos of people they claim are the victims of police violence as they block the hallway outside the governor's office in Sacramento on Sept. 2, 2015, while successfully demanding the passage of "The Racial and Identity Profiling Act of 2015."

The department plans to provide more accurate information on the number of complaints and their outcome as part of reform efforts, Chandler said.

Profiling 'undersold'

Betty Williams, president of the NAACP branch in Sacramento, said racial profiling is "undersold and underreported in such a shameless fashion."

She feels the low numbers are reported "so you won't have stronger policies and procedures and laws in place that will give a little more protection from law enforcement."

The next statewide report in

January will for the first time include statistics from California's eight largest police agencies on the perceived race, gender, sexual orientation and other characteristics of motorists during traffic stops.

In December, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department suspended operations of a team of deputies who targeted vehicles on Interstate 5, the main West Coast highway between Mexico and Canada, for drugs and other contraband. The decision came amid accusations of racial profiling after a Los Angeles Times investigation found 69 percent of drivers stopped were Latino and that two-thirds had their vehicles

searched, a far higher rate than other racial and ethnic groups.

At the federal level, legislation twice proposed by Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y. — most recently with her fellow Democratic presidential hopeful, Massachusetts U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren — would require federal border agents to track and report why they conduct stops and searches that critics fear are frequently based on racial profiling.

Eugene O'Donnell, a former New York City police officer, prosecutor and now a policing expert at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, fears that well-intended efforts by "elite critics, including politicians" to discourage racial profiling will ultimately discourage law enforcement efforts and dissuade recruits from becoming police officers.

"It's essentially inviting people to make a very serious allegation against officers who are acting in good faith that they're profiling people," he said.

WORLD

Airline: Ethiopian jetliner's flight recorders found

By ELIAS MESERET
AND YIDNEK KIRUBEL
Associated Press

HEJERE, Ethiopia — Following the crash of an Ethiopian Airlines jetliner that killed 157 people on Sunday, investigators said they have found the flight recorders from the field where the plane went down.

The new plane crashed shortly after takeoff in clear weather outside Addis Ababa on Sunday, and the airline decided to ground its remaining four 737 Max 8s until further notice as "an extra safety precaution," spokesman Asrat Begashaw said. Ethiopian Airlines had been using five of the planes and awaiting delivery of 25 more.

As Ethiopia observed a day of mourning, Red Cross workers slowly picked through the widely scattered debris near the blackened crash crater, looking for the remains of those aboard, while heavy machinery dug for larger pieces of the plane.

Some of the data and cockpit voice recorders were found, Ethiopian Airlines said. An airline official, however, said one of the recorders was partially damaged, and "we will see what we can retrieve from it." The official spoke on condition of anonymity for lack of authorization to speak to the media.

Ethiopian authorities are leading the investigation into the crash, assisted by the U.S., Kenya and others.

"These kinds of things take time," Kenyan Transport Minister James Macharia told reporters.

Sunday's crash was strikingly similar to that of a Lion Air jet of the same Boeing model in Indonesian seas last year that killed 189 people. The crash was likely to renew questions about the 737 Max 8, the newest version of Boeing's popular single-aisle airliner, which was first introduced in 1967

and has become the world's most common passenger jet.

People from 35 countries died in the crash six minutes after the plane took off from Ethiopia's capital for Nairobi. Ethiopian Airlines said the senior pilot issued a distress call and was told to return, but all contact was lost shortly afterward. The plane plowed into the ground at Hejere, near Bishoftu, scattering debris like a shredded book, a battered passport and business cards in multiple languages.

"I heard this big noise," resident Tesfaye Reta told The Associated Press. "The villagers said that it was a plane crash, and we rushed to the site. There was a huge smoke that we couldn't even see the plane. The parts of the plane were falling apart."

Kenya lost 32 people, more than any other country. Relatives of 25 of the victims had been contacted, Macharia said, and taking care of their welfare was of utmost importance.

"The name of them, as you know, they are very distressed," he said. "They are in shock like we are. They are grieving."

In Addis Ababa, members of an association of Ethiopian airline pilots cried uncontrollably for their dead colleagues. Framed photos of seven crew members sat in chairs at the front of a crowded room.

Canada, Ethiopia, the U.S., China, Italy, France, Britain, Egypt, Germany, India and Slovakia all lost four or more citizens.

Leaders of the United Nations, the U.N. refugee agency and the World Food Program said condolences had been on the plane. The U.N. migration agency estimated that 19 U.N.-affiliated employees were killed.

Both Addis Ababa and Nairobi are major hubs for humanitarian workers, and some had been on their way to a large U.N. environmental conference set to begin



People work at the scene of an Ethiopian Airlines plane crash near Bishoftu, south of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on Monday.

More Max planes grounded

Associated Press

BEIJING — Boeing's stock plunged 8 percent Monday morning as aviation authorities in China, Indonesia and Ethiopia ordered airlines to ground their Boeing 737 Max 8 planes the day after one crashed in Ethiopia, killing all 157 people on board.

The crash of the Ethiopian Airlines jet shortly after it took off from Addis Ababa on Sunday is drawing renewed scrutiny of the plane just four months after a similar crash of the same model that killed 189 people in Indonesia.

Chicago-based Boeing said it did not intend to issue any new guidance to its customers. It does plan to send a technical team to the crash site to help Ethiopian and U.S. investigators.

The 737 is the best-selling airliner in history, and the Max,

the newest version of it, with more fuel-efficient engines, is a central part of Boeing's strategy to compete with European rival Airbus.

"Safety is our number one priority, and we are taking every measure to fully understand all aspects of this accident, working closely with the investigating team and all regulatory authorities involved," the company said in a statement.

Safety experts cautioned against drawing too many parallels between the two disasters.

"I do hope, though, that people will wait for the first results of the investigation instead of jumping to conclusions based on the very little facts that we know so far," said Harro Ranter, founder of the Aviation Safety Network, which compiles information about accidents worldwide.

Monday in Nairobi. The U.N. flag at the event flew at half-staff.

The crash shattered more than two years of relative calm in African skies, where travel had long been chaotic. It also was a serious blow to Ethiopian Airlines, which has expanded to become the continent's largest and best-managed carrier and turned Addis Ababa

into the gateway to Africa.

The state-owned carrier has a good reputation, and the company's CEO told reporters no problems were seen before Sunday's flight.

But investigators also will look into the plane's maintenance, which may have been an issue in the Lion Air crash.

Russia boasts about its military

By VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV
Associated Press

MOSCOW — The Russian military has commissioned more than 1,000 new aircraft and thousands of tanks in the past few years in a massive modernization effort amid tensions with the West, the nation's defense minister said Monday.

Sergei Shoigu boasted of the military's achievements in his six years on the job, saying in a speech to lawmakers that the armed forces have turned into a highly mobile force capable of projecting power to distant areas.

Shoigu noted that the military received more than 1,000 warplanes and combat helicopters and over 3,700 tanks in 2012-18. He added that the armed forces have received 109 ground-based intercontinental ballistic missiles and 108 submarine-launched ICBMs and formed 10 brigades armed with state-of-the-art, short-range Iskander missiles.

Shoigu said the campaign in Syria that Russia has waged since 2015 showcases its military might and has allowed the military to test its new weapons in combat, including shipborne and air-launched long-range cruise missiles.

He noted that the military also has seen a quick expansion in the number of drones, laser-guided artillery projectiles and other precision weapons.

The defense minister emphasized that the 1 million-strong military has nearly 400,000 professional enlisted personnel and noncommissioned officers, a major shift for the armed forces that in the recent past relied exclusively on the draft.

Shoigu said the increase in the number of contract soldiers has allowed the military to form 136 battalions consisting entirely of professional personnel. Such battalion tactical groups are the core tactical units, allowing the armed forces to quickly deploy to any area.

He said every brigade or regiment in the Russian army now has two battalions of professional soldiers and one made up of draftees. The minister added that the draftees aren't sent into combat.

Battalion tactical groups played a key role during Russia's 2014 annexation of Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula. Ukraine and the West also have accused Russia of sending its troops to support a separatist insurgency in eastern Ukraine — claims Moscow has denied.

Shoigu mentioned the military's effort to beef up its presence in Crimea. He also noted that the armed forces have expanded their foothold in the Arctic, deploying 475 facilities there.

Some EU countries to require preregistration for travelers

By LINDSEY BEVER
The Washington Post

By 2021, Americans traveling to certain countries in Europe will have to preregister online as part of a security system intended to screen visa-free travelers.

The European Union announced last year that before entry, travelers from all visa-free countries, including the United States, will need to preregister and pay a small application fee using the European Travel Information and Authorization System, or ETIAS, a system designed "to strengthen security checks on

those persons who travel visa-free to the EU," according to a fact sheet from the European Commission.

It applies to people traveling to Europe's Schengen Zone, an area comprising more than two dozen countries, including France, Germany and Spain but not England.

Currently, U.S. citizens with a valid passport can visit Schengen countries and stay for up to 90 days without a visa, according to the State Department.

News outlets, including CNN, Esquire and Travel & Leisure, mistakenly reported that starting in 2021, U.S. travelers will need a

visa to visit Europe.

It is not a visa.

Officials with the European Commission and the U.S. State Department, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to speak freely on the process, confirmed that ETIAS is simply a travel authorization for visa-free travelers, similar to the U.S. Electronic System for Travel Authorization, or ESTA, to screen people in the Visa Waiver Program. Inaccurate news reports have recently stated that the EU's ETIAS is a visa program.

The news reports appeared to lead to confusion online.

WORLD

Court bans Ghosn from Nissan board meeting

TOKYO — A Japanese court has rejected a request by former Nissan Chairman Carlos Ghosn, released on bail last week, to attend the Japanese automaker's board meeting on Tuesday.

Nissan dismissed Ghosn as chairman after his Nov. 19 arrest, but he remains on the board. The Tokyo District Court said it rejected Ghosn's request on Monday but did not elaborate on the reasons.

The court's approval was needed based on restrictions imposed for his release on bail. The restrictions say he cannot tamper with evidence, and attending the board meeting could be seen as putting pressure on Nissan employees.

French tycoon on trial over \$450 million deal

PARIS — French tycoon Bernard Tapie is facing a criminal trial over a fraudulent \$450 million arbitration package linked to his sale of sportswear company Adidas in the 1990s.

Civil courts have already ruled the unusually generous 2008 award was the result of fraud and ordered Tapie to refund the money. Tapie and five others are in court in Paris starting Monday in a trial that will determine whether they also face criminal penalties.

The payout to Tapie came from state funds, prompting public indignation and questions as to whether he benefited from political connections, including with then-President Nicolas Sarkozy.

China will grow crops for wild elephants

BEIJING — China said it plans to grow crops specifically for wild elephants to graze on in an effort to spare the livelihoods of local farmers.

The southwestern province of Yunnan will set up the special farm in a habitat protection area in Menghai county where 18 of the animals frequently raid the crops of farmers from villages in the area. The 126-acre farm will grow corn, sugarcane, bamboo and bananas.

Switzerland releases new \$1,000 banknote

BERLIN — It's purple and yellow, and very valuable: Switzerland's central bank has unveiled a redesigned version of its \$1,000 note.

The Swiss National Bank said on March 5 the overhauled version of its highest denomination note is "smaller and thus easier to handle" than its predecessor, as well as incorporating "complex security features." The note, featuring a handshaking, is to become the Swiss parliament on the other, will go into circulation starting Wednesday.

The 1,000-franc note is a long-standing tradition in cash-friendly Switzerland.

The ECB dropped its biggest note, which means that it had become too popular among crooks and money launderers.

From The Associated Press

Iran seeks to boost ties with Iraq

By QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA
Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iranian President Hassan Rouhani was in Baghdad on Monday, making his first official visit to the nation that Tehran once fought a bloody war against and later backed in the battle with Islamic State.

Since Rouhani's election in 2013, Iraq has relied on Iranian paramilitary support to fight ISIS, following the militant group's capture of the Iraqi city of Mosul and other territory in both Iraq and Syria.

Now with the militants facing a final territorial defeat in the Syrian village of Baghouz, Iraq is looking for Iraq's continued support as it faces a maximalist pressure campaign by President Donald Trump after his decision to withdraw America from Syria's nuclear deal with world powers.

Rouhani, who is accompanied on the three-day visit by a high-ranking political and economic delegation, was received by an honor guard on landing in Baghdad, where he was welcomed by Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohammed Ali Al-Hakim.

Rouhani then visited the shrine



KHALIL MOHAMMED/AP

Iraqi President Barham Salih, second left, and visiting Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, inspect an honor guard during a welcoming ceremony at Salam Palace in Baghdad on Monday.

of Imam Kadhimi, the seventh of 12 clerics revered by Shites worldwide. Rouhani, a Shiite cleric, paused to reach out and touch the gate surrounding the imam's tomb.

He then met President Barham Salih and spoke to journalists, telling them that a "stable Iraq will lead to stability in the entire region."

"We want to be united countries, not against others, but attracting others to our unity," Rouhani said.

For his part, Salih said Baghdad's central location made it crucial to resolving regional issues. He thanked Iran for its support during Iraq's fight against ISIS.

Rouhani was to later meet Prime Minister Abdel Abdul

Mehdi, as well as other politicians and Shiite leaders.

Speaking at Tehran's Mehrabad Airport before leaving for Iraq, Rouhani was quoted on his official website as saying the trip's goal was "deepening bilateral relations."

"Relations between Iran and Iraq are special," Rouhani was quoted as saying. "In the recent years, the people of Iran have passed a test with pride, and that is wherever the peoples of the region faced a problem and asked for the help of the Iranian nation and government, we rushed to help them."

Tehran sees the U.S. military presence at its doorstep in Iraq as a threat — one that could also undermine Iran's influence over Baghdad.

Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif alluded to that on Sunday while in Baghdad, saying that any country which tries to interfere with the good Iran-Iraq relations would "be deprived of opportunities for itself."

Iran also sees Iraq as a possible route to bypass U.S. sanctions that Trump reimposed last year after pulling the U.S. out of the 2015 nuclear deal.

1 suspect in killing of Kim Jong Nam is released

By EILEEN NG
Associated Press

SHAH ALAM, Malaysia — An Indonesian woman held for two years on suspicion of killing North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's half brother was freed from custody Monday after Malaysian prosecutors unexpectedly dropped the murder charge against her.

Siti Aisyah cried and hugged her Vietnamese co-defendant, Doan Thi Huong, before leaving the courtroom and being ushered away in an Indonesian Embassy car. She told reporters that she had learned only Monday morning that she would be freed.

The trial is to resume Thursday when prosecutors are expected to reply to a request by Huong's lawyers for the government to also withdraw the charges against her.



VINCENT THIAN/AP

Siti Aisyah, left, smiles with her lawyer, Gooi Soon Seng, at the Indonesian Embassy in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on Monday.

Indonesia's government had lobbied repeatedly for Aisyah's release. Vietnam has pushed hard and recently hosted Kim Jong Un for an official visit and a summit with President Donald Trump.

Kim Jong Un's half brother, Kim Jong Nam, died after being assaulted in an airport terminal in Kuala Lumpur on Feb. 13, 2017. The two young women were accused of smearing VX nerve agent on his face.

They have said they thought they were taking part in a prank for a TV show. They had been the only suspects in custody after four North Korean suspects fled the country the morning Kim was killed.

On Monday, the High Court judge discharged Aisyah without an acquittal after prosecutors applied to drop the murder charge against her. They did not give any reason.

Officials said she was expected to fly back to Jakarta, Indonesia's capital, later Monday.

"I feel very happy," Aisyah said at a news conference at the Indo-

nesian Embassy. "I didn't expect that today will be my freedom day."

Indonesia's government said its continued high-level lobbying resulted in Aisyah's release. Its Foreign Ministry said in a statement that she was "deceived and did not realize at all that she was being manipulated by North Korean intelligence."

Prosecutor Iskandar Ahmad said Aisyah's discharge without an acquittal means she can be charged again if there is fresh evidence but that there are no such plans now.

Huong's lawyer, Hysyam Teh Poh Teik, said Huong felt Aisyah's discharge was unfair to her because the judge last year had found sufficient evidence to continue the murder trial against them.

Iranian couple arrested after marriage proposal in public

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — A young Iranian couple have been arrested after a marriage proposal in public that was captured on a video clip that went viral on social media.

Police say the pair offered Islamic mores on public decency. They were later released on bail.

The video, which spread on social media last Friday, shows the young man standing in a heart-shaped ring of flower petals next

to colorful balloons in a mall in the central Iranian city of Arak.

He proposes, and after the young woman says "yes," he slips a ring on her finger to cheers from a crowd of onlookers. The two were not identified.

Mostafa Norouzi, deputy police chief in Arak, told the Shahrband daily that it is unacceptable for the young "to do whatever is common in other places of the world and disregard mores, culture and religion" in Iran.

The pair's "offense is very clear and there is no need for explanation" about the reason for their arrest, Norouzi added.

Lawyer Isa Amini, head of the Tehran Bar Association, criticized the arrest and said he could not understand what the grounds were for such an action since the couple did not commit any wrongdoing.

However, the semi-official and hard-line Farsnews agency called the public proposal "shameful"

and claimed it could promote "immorality." The news agency demanded "harsh" punishment to stop such displays from being repeated by others.

Iranian hard-liners perceive public displays of affection as a result of allegedly corrupt influence of Western culture that threatens morals in this conservative Islamic society.

The Islamic Republic's strict rules forbid gender mixing in public.

Available Now

STARS  STRIPES®

Presents

FORCE FOR HIRE

A STARS AND STRIPES PODCAST



A new podcast from the unique perspective only Stars and Stripes can provide.

Explore the culture, history, myths and facts of Private Military Contracting and the new reality of modern warfare.

This month on Force for Hire

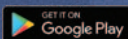
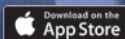
Blackwater, the myth, the fact, the standard

Blackwater gained a foothold in the public psyche so strong that the corporation remains synonymous with private military contracting.

Insight: Adam Gonzales

An in-depth look at the combat veteran who founded an online source for veterans to find employers looking for private contractors.

Listen Now on



and at **Stripes.com/podcasts**

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Powell: Trump had no role in rate hike pause

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell says political attacks by President Donald Trump played no role in the Fed's decision in January to signal that it planned to take a pause in raising interest rates. He also said in an interview broadcast Sunday that he can't be fired by the president and that he intends to serve out his full four-year term.

In a wide-ranging interview with CBS' "60 Minutes," Powell said that the Fed decided to pause its rate increases in January, after raising rates four times in 2018, because the global economy was slowing and other risks to the U.S. economy were rising. The Fed said it planned to be "patient" in deciding when to change rates again.

Asked to define patient, Powell said, "Patient means that we don't feel in any hurry to change our interest rate policy."

At another point, Powell said the Fed felt its interest rate policy "is in a very good place right now" with the benchmark rate in a range of 2.25 to 2.5 percent, which Powell said was "roughly neutral," meaning the Fed's policy rate was not stimulating growth or holding it back.

"We think that's an appropriate place for an economy that has the lowest unemployment in 50 years, that has inflation right about at our 2 percent objective, that has returned significantly to good health," Powell said.

Powell said that in the last three months, the Fed has seen increasing evidence of a global growth slowdown with slower activity in China and Europe and potential threats from such events as Brexit.



ALEX BRANDON/AP

Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell speaks at a news conference in Washington on Jan. 30.

it, Britain's planned exit from the European Union.

"We've said that we're going to wait and see how those conditions evolve before we make any changes to our interest rate policy and that means patient," Powell said in the interview with Scott Pelley.

Powell said that despite outside criticism, the Fed will always "make decisions based on what we think is right for the American people ... We will never, ever take political considerations into effect."

Asked if Trump could fire him, Powell said: "The law is clear that I have a four-year term. And I fully intend to serve it."

Powell's appearance on "60

Minutes" continued a tradition begun by then-Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke, who appeared on the program in March 2009, breaking a long tradition of Fed leaders not giving television interviews.

Bernanke's appearance came during the depths of the Great Recession when the country was losing millions of jobs and the country struggled to get out of the deepest downturn since the 1930s.

Bernanke and Powell's immediate predecessor, Janet Yellen, both appeared with Powell during the Sunday broadcast. Powell was picked for the top Fed job by Trump after the president decided not to offer a second term to Yellen. Both Bernanke and Yel-

len were asked what advice they had given Powell on withstanding outside criticism.

Bernanke said he kept a quotation from Abraham Lincoln on his desk saying that if your decisions turn out to be correct, the criticism will not matter. Yellen said that she and Powell had worked together closely on the Fed and that Powell was doing a good job of being "inclusive" in his decision-making.

Trump has been highly critical of the Fed's rate increases, calling them his biggest threat. Trump's attacks were frequent last fall when the stock market was plunging in value, a drop that the president blamed in part on the Fed's rate increases.

Trump has not been as vocal about the Fed since the Fed announced it would be "patient" about future rate increases, but in a March 2 speech, he referred to Powell, without using his name, as a "gentleman" who likes raising rates and who likes tightening credit.

In the Sunday broadcast, Powell said while he felt U.S. growth would slow this year, he did not feel the country was headed for a recession.

"The outlook for our economy, in my view, is a favorable one," Powell said. "This year, I expect growth will continue to be positive and continue to be at a healthy rate."

The Fed in January signaled that due to a slowing global economy and other economic risks, it had decided to be "patient" in deciding when to raise interest rates again. Powell also delivered that message last month in testimony before Congress.

While the Fed in December had signaled it expected to raise rates two more times in 2019,

many economists believe the central bank will now keep rates unchanged for a prolonged period and may not increase rates at all this year.

The economy grew at a solid 2.9 percent rate in 2018, helped by Trump's tax cuts and billions of dollars of increased government spending. But economists believe that support will wane this year and, with the global economy slowing, the U.S. economy is likely to slow to growth of just above 2 percent.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (March 12)	\$1.1538
Dollar buys (March 12)	69.8667
British pound (March 12)	\$1.34
Japanese yen (March 12)	105.00
South Korean won (March 12)	1,105.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770
British pound	\$1.3091
Canada (Dollar)	1.3402
China (Yuan)	6.7238
Denmark (Krone)	6.6339
Egypt (Pound)	17.4054
Euro	\$1.1247/0.8892
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8499
Hungary (Forint)	280.70
Israel (Shekel)	3.6226
Japan (Yen)	111.07
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3039
Norway (Krone)	8.6848
Philippines (Peso)	52.24
Poland (Zloty)	3.82
Saudi (Riyal)	3.7598
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3585
South Korea (Won)	1,133.66
Taiwan (Dollar)	1.0091
Thailand (Baht)	31.751
Turkey (Lira)	4.3178
(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance. For Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, for nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)	

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	5.40
Discount rate	3.00
Federal Reserve market rate	4.00
3-month bill	2.39
30-year bond	3.01

WEATHER OUTLOOK



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Police respond when teens at mall flee

WA SEATTLE — Police in a city north of Seattle said a large group of teens and young adults entered and then suddenly fled a mall, and the chaos may have been sparked by a social media posting.

KOMO television reported the gathering early Saturday evening at Tukwila's Southcenter Mall drew a large police presence. No one was hurt in the incident.

Detectives said the crowd gathered at the urging of a post on YouTube. A large number of young adults suddenly ran for the exits, prompting fear that there might be a shooter or other threat.

Some stores closed their gates when they saw young people fleeing for the exits.

Police said the person posting the invitation to gather did not have a permit for an event or ask permission from the mall.

Troopers ticket over 200 under left lane law

IN INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana State Police have handed out more than 200 tickets to motorists for driving too slowly in the left lane.

WRTV-TV reported state police ticketed 87 drivers in 2017 for left lane violations and 132 in 2018. It also gave more than 1,000 warnings last year.

A 2015 state law requires drivers to move to the right lane to allow faster traffic to pass.

Trooper Aaron Pfaff said slower drivers clogging the left lane caused aggressive driving and road rage.

Dozens rescued after being trapped on ice

OH MARBLEHEAD — A sheet of ice holding fishermen on Lake Erie broke loose in windy weather Saturday morning, sending many of them scrambling to safety but leaving nearly four dozen stranded on the ice for three hours more than a mile offshore until emergency crews could rescue them.

About 100 of 146 fishermen out on the ice were able to grab their gear and make it back to shore before any additional ice broke off, The Blade of Toledo reported.

One of the stranded fishermen, Tony Adkins, 42, said the ice began to crack quickly, and soon there was a huge gap between the ice floe and the shore.

"Thank God the Coast Guard was here for us," Adkins, of Akron, told The Blade. "You live and you learn, I guess."

CVS to change on-hold jingle after request

MA BOSTON — A Massachusetts doctor who played with CVS to change its on-hold jingle is getting his wish.

The Boston Globe reported a spokeswoman for the pharmacy chain said Friday the company is updating its voice-response phone system, including the on-hold music that Dr. Steven Schlozman so hated.

THE CENSUS

\$500K

The approximate amount in cash seized by Georgia police during a traffic stop. Deputies pulled over a driver for erratic driving and found the car contained \$500,800. WALB-TV reported Lowndes County deputies made the traffic stop on Interstate 75 after seeing the vehicle weaving across lanes and moving at a very slow speed. Sheriff Ashley Paulk said drug dogs were used to sniff the car. No drugs were found, but deputies discovered duffel bags and a dog food bag stuffed with cash. Paulk said the bills were bundled and wrapped with plastic and rubber bands, "the same way they wrap cocaine." He said the driver is charged with traffic offenses and the investigation remains open.



KELLEY SMITH, THE (MICHIGAN CITY, IND.) NEWS DISPATCH/AP

Saluting the Spice Girls

Employees from 1st Source Bank dressed as the Spice Girls encourage the crowd to "Spice Up Your Life" during the United Way of La Porte County's inaugural Lip Sync Battle at the Blue Chip Casino in Michigan City, Ind., on Friday.

The child psychiatrist at Massachusetts General Hospital penned a tongue-in-cheek letter to WBUR-FM last year saying the music haunted him "day and night."

The letter sparked a nationwide debate, with some people praising the music and others sharing Schlozman's sentiments.

Town elects goat as its honorary mayor

VT FAIR HAVEN — A 3-year-old Nubian goat named Lincoln is poised to become the first honorary pet mayor of the small Vermont town of Fair Haven.

The nanny goat was chosen last week by townspeople for the one-year post at the community's Town Meeting Day. Lincoln takes office Tuesday.

The ballot of 16 pets was open to all town residents. Most of the other candidates were dogs and cats; a gerbil named Crystal also was a candidate.

Lincoln, with 13 votes, beat out a dog named Sammie, who received 10 votes. The other candidates combined for 30 votes.

During her time as mayor, Lincoln will be expected to attend local events such as marching in the Memorial Day parade wearing a custom-made sash.

Feds say man wed stranger to stay in US

NC RALEIGH — Prosecutors say a couple was panhandling along a North

Carolina road when a foreigner pulled over with a proposal for the woman — marry him so he could stay in the country, and they'd receive \$12,000 along with payments for a house and car.

Citing court records, The News & Observer reported that Melissa Anne Godshall, 31, accepted the offer from Levan Lomatidze, 44, a native of the country of Georgia. Her boyfriend, Robert Kennerly, 46, served as a witness during the marriage ceremony.

The U.S. attorney's office says all three have been indicted on charges involving marriage fraud.

Dog randomly shot; police seeking suspect

TX DALLAS — Dallas police are looking for a man who authorities allege walked up to a group of children and shot their dog for seemingly no reason.

WFAA-TV reported that Nolan, a 9-month-old Labrador retriever mix, is expected to make a full recovery after undergoing emergency surgery.

The dog's owner, Genola Vance, told WFAA-TV her son and nephews were taking out the trash on Feb. 28 when the unidentified man walked up to them, said "sorry" and shot Nolan. The man wore a black hoodie and had a backpack.

The dog was shot in the front of his mouth, breaking his jaw.

The local SPCA chapter paid for his surgery, which was about \$7,000.

Ammo explodes during blaze at vacant home

MO ST. LOUIS — Authorities in St. Louis said a firefighter was slightly injured when ammunition exploded during a fire in a vacant house.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported that firefighters were called to the two-story, multifamily house about 9 p.m. Friday. The fire department said no one was in the home, located in the Kingsway East neighborhood, at the time.

Officials said that at some point during the fire, heat caused loose ammunition to explode and hit one firefighter in the hand. The firefighter was treated on the scene.

Man stabbed in head during fight at Walmart

KY BUECHEL — Police in Kentucky said a man was stabbed in the head during a fight outside a Buechel Walmart, and authorities are still searching for the suspect.

Louisville Metro Police spokeswoman Alicia Smiley told The Courier Journal that a fight started between two men outside the store Sunday afternoon and led to the stabbing. It's unclear what caused the fight. The suspect fled the scene, and authorities were still searching for him as of that night.

West Buechel police Chief Jim Sherrard said the man was conscious when police arrived at the scene. He lost consciousness on

his way to the hospital, where he was in critical condition Sunday evening.

Loose cart on flight causes minor injuries

DC WASHINGTON — Some people aboard an American Airlines flight received minor injuries when a loose cart came down the aisle of the plane.

American Airlines spokeswoman Martha Thomas told The Associated Press on Sunday evening that upon Flight 2145's landing at Washington's Ronald Reagan National Airport from LaGuardia Airport in New York, a cart came loose in the aft galley.

Family faces huge bill after meter not read

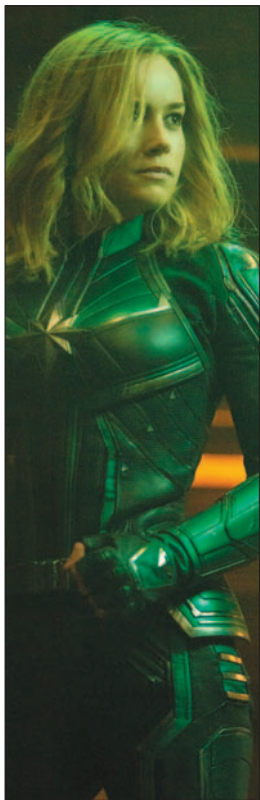
MS SALTILLO — A northeast Mississippi family faces a \$1,400 bill after a city forgot to read a water meter for three years.

The Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal reported that Saltillo employees forgot to read a second water meter at Kristi Sizemore's home. Sizemore's family used a spigot to water its yard and fill a swimming pool for three years until the city sent a bill in summer 2018.

City attorney Chris Evans said state law doesn't allow the city to waive the charges, even though the city was at fault. Instead, Saltillo officials agreed to a two-year payment plan for Sizemore to catch up.

From wire reports

FACES



DISNEY-MARVEL/AP

Brie Larson is shown in a scene from "Captain Marvel." The film established a new worldwide mark for a film directed or co-directed by a woman.

'Captain Marvel' trumps trolls

Female-fronted superhero film rockets to huge global opening

By JAKE COYLE
Associated Press

"Captain Marvel," Marvel Studios' first female-fronted superhero movie, launched with \$153 million domestically and \$455 million globally, according to studio estimates Sunday, making it one of the biggest blockbusters ever led by a woman.

Brie Larson's Carol Danvers, a character who debuted in Marvel Comics in 1968, had never before made it into the movies and was previously lesser known than many Marvel heroes. But "Captain Marvel," which came in at the high end of the Walt Disney Co.'s expectations, ranks as one of Marvel's most successful character debuts.

Only "The Avengers" movies, "Black Panther," "Captain America: Civil War" and "Iron Man 3" have opened better in the Marvel cinematic universe.

"She definitely pushed us higher, further, faster," Disney distribution chief Chathleen Taff said.

"Captain Marvel" rocketed up other record books, too. It establishes a new worldwide mark for a film directed or co-directed by a woman. "Captain Marvel" was helmed by the filmmaking team of Anna Boden and Ryan Fleck, who previously made the indie "Half Nelson" and "Mississippi Grind."

It's the sixth largest worldwide debut ever. The only movie with a female lead that's opened better globally was "Star Wars: The Force Awakens," which grossed \$529 million when it debuted in 2015.

Like the "Force Awakens" sequel "The Last Jedi," "Captain Marvel" had to tangle with trolls who sought to lessen the film's impact. Some fans claimed Larson's hero didn't smile enough, a charge she responded to with doctored pictures of previous male Marvel superheroes with awkwardly full grins. Others took issue with Larson's statements about making her press interviews for the film more inclusive and not "overwhelmingly white male."

The anti-"Captain Marvel" campaign

Rep. Dan Crenshaw reveals Captain America glass eye

One war hero is commending a fictional war hero.

U.S. Rep. Dan Crenshaw, a former Navy SEAL-turned Texas congressman who lost his eye in Afghanistan, showed off his Marvel-ous "Captain America"-inspired glass eye to Steve Rogers himself — actor Chris Evans.

Crenshaw took to Twitter on Friday to post a picture of himself revealing a "Captain America" star shield on his glass eye underneath the eye patch he wears. Crenshaw lost his right eye to an IED blast in 2012 during his third deployment.

"When Captain America sees your Captain America glass eye," the congressman captioned the images, adding the hashtag #merica.

Evans seemed to approve.

"A VERY cool use of vibranium," he tweeted Friday, referring to a virtually indestructible fictional metal used to create Captain America's shield.



Screenshot from Twitter

The actor, 37, met with other lawmakers during a stop in Washington over the weekend, including South Carolina Sen. Tim Scott, who appears to know the highly anticipated ending of "Avengers: Endgame" (in theaters April 26).

"Honor to meet you, sir. Thank you for taking the time," Evans tweeted. "And if you repeat the secrets I told you about Endgame, Marvel will make sure we BOTH turn to dust."

— Cyndee Henderson
USA Today

included the flooding of Rotten Tomatoes audience scores, which artificially drove down the film's score to 55 percent fresh from more than 44,000 votes as of Sunday. To combat the down-voting issue in advance of "Captain Marvel," Rotten Tomatoes (which doesn't require users to verify that they've seen a movie that they're scoring) removed the ability to rate movies prior to release.

For Disney, it's a strong start for a year littered with tentpole releases, some of which are sure to surpass "Captain Marvel," including: "Avengers: Endgame," "Toy Story 4," a remake of "The Lion King" and the next "Star Wars" movie.

Last week's top film, "How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World," slid to a distant second place in its third weekend

of release with \$14.7 million. In its second weekend, Tyler Perry's "A Madea Family Funeral" dropped 55 percent with \$12 million. It's made \$45.9 million in 10 days.

"Captain Marvel" scared away any new wide releases. Vincent D'Onofrio's directorial debut, "The Kid," was largely overlooked by moviegoers. It sold \$505,000 of tickets in 268 theaters.

A24's "Gloria Bell," Sebastian Lelio's remake of his own Chilean drama, opened strongly in limited release with \$154,775 in five theaters. The film stars Julianne Moore as a middle-aged Los Angeles divorcee.

"Apollo 11," the acclaimed moon landing documentary featuring newly discovered and restored footage, continued to pack theaters. It made \$1.3 million from 285 locations, including many IMAX screens.

Showtime cancels 'SMILF' after reports of on-set misconduct

Associated Press

Showtime has canceled the comedy series "SMILF," and ABC studios, which produces the show, has suspended a development deal with its creator, star and executive producer Frankie Shaw.

The announcements Friday came after a December story in The Hollywood Reporter that detailed allegations of abusive on-set behavior and violations of industry rules by Shaw, who directs some episodes of the show. Shaw denied the allegations, saying she worked to create a safe environment and it pained her to learn that any cast and crew were uncomfortable.

"After weighing a variety of factors, Showtime has decided that 'SMILF' will not move forward for a third season," the cable channel's statement said. "We remain extremely proud of the two seasons of SMILF, and thank Frankie Shaw for her singular voice and unique creation."

Showtime will continue to air the second season through its March 31 finale.

In her own statement, Shaw said, "I can't express how much I've loved making this



Shaw

includes Rosie O'Donnell and Connie Britton, was built on a short film Shaw showed at the 2015 Sundance Film Festival. It premiered in 2017 to critical acclaim and got two Golden Globe nominations.

But allegations from cast and crew emerged in The Hollywood Reporter story, all denied by Shaw, including the mishandling of sex scenes that breached actors' contracts and separating writers by race.

Actor Jan-Michael Vincent, known for 'Airwolf,' dies at 73

Actor Jan-Michael Vincent, the "Airwolf" television star whose sleek good



Vincent

show, how much I love the cast and crew and appreciate Showtime and ABC as creative partners."

"SMILF" which features Shaw as a down-on-her-luck single mom in Boston with a cast that

says he died of natural causes and no autopsy was performed. It wasn't clear why it took several weeks for news of the death to surface before it was first reported Friday by TMZ.

Vincent starred in such films as 1972's "The Mechanic" and 1978's "Hooper," in which he played a stuntman opposite Burt Reynolds.

Perhaps his best-known role was in the television action-adventure series "Airwolf," which lasted for several seasons after launching in 1984. Vincent played Stringfellow Hawke, a rugged pilot who could pull off aerobic crime-fighting maneuvers in an advanced helicopter — but also play the cello.

Other news

■ J-Rod is taking it to the next level — superstar Jennifer Lopez and retired baseball star Alex Rodriguez are engaged. The couple posted an Instagram photo of their hands with a massive engagement ring on Lopez's ring finger. The former Yankees shortstop captioned his photo with "she said yes" and a heart emoji. It will be Lopez's fourth marriage and Rodriguez's second. Each has two children from previous marriages.

■ Rap artist 21 Savage is facing another legal headache. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported Friday that a week after the Liberty County (Ga.) District Attorney's office rejected a felony case against the Atlanta rapper for a contract dispute regarding a 2016 performance, the club promoter has refilled it as a civil case in Fulton County, where the artist lives. Saadiq Kent Smith, who hired the rapper for a show, is seeking \$60,000 for breach of contract and \$1 million for emotional distress. She is requesting a trial by jury.

SHIFTING GEARS



PHOTOS BY JESSICA LYNN WALKER, CHEVROLET/TNS

Blazer is back

By G. CHAMBERS WILLIAMS III
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Now on sale at Chevrolet dealers nationwide is the all-new five-passenger midsize Blazer crossover utility vehicle, which brings back an iconic Chevy nameplate that hasn't been seen since 2005.

The 2019 Blazer comes in six different models, beginning with the entry-level L version, starting at \$28,800 (plus \$1,195 freight) with front-wheel drive and a 2.5-liter four-cylinder engine, and ranging up to the 3.6-liter V-6 powered Premier, \$42,700 with front drive or \$45,600 with all-wheel drive.

In between are the Blazer 2.5 Cloth (\$32,300, front drive only); Blazer 3.6 Cloth (\$33,300, front drive only); Blazer 3.6 Leather (\$36,500, front drive; \$40,200, AWD); and the sporty RS (\$40,600, 3.6-liter, front drive; \$43,500, 3.6-liter, AWD).

The new Blazer is different from Ford's Bronco revival for 2020, as that vehicle will be more of an off-road-capable SUV like its original, while the Blazer is a family crossover similar to the midsize, five-passenger Ford Edge and Jeep Grand Cherokee.

For about 30 years, the Bronco and Chevy K5 Blazer — both built on the chassis of their full-size pickup counterparts, the F-series and Silverado — were in head-to-head competition. There was also a smaller version of the Blazer, designated S10 instead of K5, to reflect that it was built on the chassis of Chevy's S10 compact pickup. That vehicle was essentially replaced in the Chevrolet lineup by the TrailBlazer, introduced in 2002 and discontinued after 2009.

The bigger K5 Blazer morphed into the Chevrolet Tahoe, which remains one of the staples of the Chevy truck/SUV lineup.

This newest Blazer is slotted between the full-size Chevy Traverse three-row crossover and the compact five-passenger Equinox, which is about the same size as the early 2000s S10 Blazer SUV. There is also a subcompact crossover in the Chevy

lineup, the Trax.

Chevrolet has never had a crossover in the midsize class, as the Traverse, introduced for 2009, has been marketed as a large crossover. The Blazer corresponds in size and mission with the Edge, Grand Cherokee and other midsize five-passenger crossovers, while the larger Ford Explorer has a third-row seat and competes with the Traverse. Ford's Escape is a compact that goes up against the Equinox, and the new Ford EcoSport is the counterpart to the Trax.

2019 Chevrolet Blazer



Highlights: All new for 2019, this is the revival of Chevrolet's Blazer nameplate, this time on a midsize, five-passenger crossover utility vehicle. It has a choice of a four-cylinder engine or a more-powerful V-6.
Negatives: No third-row seat option.
Vehicle type: Crossover utility vehicle
Base price: \$28,800-\$43,500 (plus \$1,195 freight)

Price as tested: \$49,290 (including freight and options) (Premier AWD)

Powertrain: 2.5-liter inline four-cylinder, 3.6-liter V-6

Transmission: Nine-speed automatic

Power/torque: 193 horsepower/188 foot-pounds (I-4); 308 HP/270 foot-pounds (V-6)

EPA fuel economy rating: 20 mpg city/26 highway/22 combined (V-6, front drive); 18/25/21 (V-6, AWD)

TNS

Chevrolet revives the iconic nameplate in a 5-passenger midsize crossover

Our Premier all-wheel-drive tester came with the 3.6-liter V-6, which is like the one used in the Chevrolet Camaro and several other Chevy models.

An advanced twin-clutch all-wheel-drive system is used on RS and Premier trims. As with most crossovers, the Blazer's all-wheel drive does not have low-range gearing for serious trail use. It does have driver-selectable settings for 2WD, automatic AWD and various terrains.

The six-cylinder Blazers with all-wheel drive are capable of towing trailers weighing up to 4,500 pounds; the front-drive V-6 models and the 2.5-liter models are limited to 1,500 pounds.

There is 30.5 cubic feet of cargo space behind the rear seat, and 64.2 cubic feet with the second-row seatback folded flat. The second-row seat can slide fore and aft to increase leg and knee room or boost cargo space behind it.

The RS and Premier models each has unique styling cues, including different grilles, bright chrome exterior trim on the Premier, and a blacked-out look for the RS.

At the front is a bold grille and hood lines, low-placed HID headlights, and LED daytime running lamps. At the rear are LED Chevy-signature dual-element taillights, dual exhaust outlets and an integrated tailgate spoiler.

The new Blazer has up-to-date connectivity options, intuitive controls and a long list of standard and available safety and convenience features. Six USB ports are included, and wireless phone charging is available.

There is an eight-inch color touch screen featuring Chevrolet Infotainment 3, along with 4G LTE Wi-Fi (with one-month/3gb data trial), along with Apple CarPlay and Android Auto compatibility.

Among other features are an electronic-locking glovebox large enough for a small handbag. It is locked using the vehicle's Valet Mode, accessible through the Settings menu. A button on the dash opens the glovebox.

Included on our Premier model were a heated steering wheel and heated/ventilated front seats, which can be operated from outside the vehicle with the Remote Start feature. Heated outboard rear seating positions are offered.

The new comfort-open feature, activated by the remote, rolls all the windows down to help dissipate heat from the cabin before anybody gets in.

Adaptive Cruise Control and a Rear Camera Mirror system are available on RS and Premier, while a hands-free power liftgate with Chevy logo projection is standard on RS and Premier.

Both engines have intelligent stop/start to help maximize fuel economy in traffic.

Also standard on all models is Traction Select, which allows for adjustments to the vehicle's driving mode for varying road conditions. On AWD models, it can completely disconnect the rear axle so the vehicle operates only in front-wheel drive mode when the extra traction is not needed at the rear wheels.

The front bucket seats on our Premier model were quite comfortable, and included power adjustments. The rear seat has ample leg and knee room even with larger people in the front seats. Three adults can sit relatively comfortably in the rear seat, although it's better with two adults in the outboard positions, of course.

We had plenty of power with the V-6 engine, even on some mountainous country roads. We haven't tested the four-cylinder Blazer yet. Shifting of the automatic gearbox was smooth and predictable.

The Blazer's cabin was surprisingly quiet even at highway speeds, with little wind noise. The ride was mostly smooth, although winter potholes could make it a bit rough.

We used the all-wheel drive for some limited off-road driving in a national forest, but of course nothing rough or tough, as the Blazer is not really designed for that. Even so, it performed well on dirt and gravel roads, and there was enough ground clearance for minor obstacles.

Stripes SERVICE DIRECTORY

The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market

Attorneys

178

Transportation

944

Court & Carpenter
MILITARY DEFENSE LAWYERS

**THE LOCAL CIVILIAN
MILITARY DEFENSE FIRM**

Sauerwiesen 2, Kaiserslautern-
Siegelbach, Germany 67661

(833) 446-UCMJ (x8265)
www.militarylawfirm.com

Dental

902

VEHICLE SHIPPING SERVICES

- International Shipping
- Import & Export
- Inland trucking (U.S. & Europe)
- Door to door pick-up/delivery service
- Customs clearance
- All Risk Marine Insurance
- Auto Insurance (Germany only)

For Further Information Please Contact

GERMANY Phone: +49-(0)6134-2592730 Toll-free: 0800-CARSHIP (Germany only) E-Mail: info@transglobal-logistics.de WEB: www.transglobal-logistics.de	UNITED KINGDOM +44-(0)1638-515714 enquiries@carshipuk.co.uk www.carshipuk.co.uk	U.S.A. +1-972-602-1670 Ext. 1701 +1-800-264-8167 (US only) info@tgal.us www.tgal.us
--	---	--

For 2nd POV Shipments - Offices / Agencies near Military Installations

Trans Global
LOGISTICS EUROPE GMBH

**AMERICAN
DOCTORS
& STAFF**
Creating Healthy Smiles

- Certified Orthodontics
- American Dental Hygienists
- Family Dentistry

Ramstein Dental Care
06371 406 230
Poststrasse 1,
66877 Ramstein
Ramsteindental.com

Wiesbaden Dental Care
06119 887 26 50
Bahnstrasse 14,
65205 Wiesbaden
Wiesbadendental.com

TRICARE Preferred Provider

Transportation

944

Ship Cars and Containers to and from the USA

OPENING HOURS: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon - Fri
0800-522-6274 or 800-WSA-SHIP (872-7447)
For a free rate request, please email: info@worldwide-ship.de
Visit our Website: www.worldwide-ship.de



Off Duty? Amuse Yourself!

Concerts, events,
TV, movies,
music, video games,
celebrity antics...

Get entertained with...

STARS AND STRIPES.

Want a better picture?

You'll get one – just by reading
Stars and Stripes military news coverage.
In print • Online at stripes.com • Mobile for Android, iPhone & iPad
No one covers the bases the way we do.

STARS AND STRIPES.
However you read us, wherever you need us.

Round-the-world news for America's military.

Stripes.com supplies constant updates, on news of interest — including reports from our overseas military bases in Europe, Pacific, Southwest Asia and the Mideast, and coverage of the Pentagon and Capitol Hill. Also available on mobile apps for Android smartphones and as an iOS app for both iPhone and iPad.

STARS AND STRIPES.

Mobile • Online • Print

STARS AND STRIPES

Max D. Lederer Jr., Publisher
Lt. Col. Sean Kilmek, Europe commander
Lt. Col. Richard McClintic, Pacific commander
Harry Eley, Europe Business Operations

EDITORIAL

Terry Leonard, Editor
leonard.terr@stripes.com
Robert H. Reid, Senior Managing Editor
reid.robert@stripes.com
Tina Croley, Managing Editor for Content
croley.tina@stripes.com
Sean Moores, Managing Editor for Presentation
moores.sean@stripes.com
Joe Gromelski, Managing Editor for Digital
gromelski.joe@stripes.com

BUREAU STAFF

Europe/Mideast

Erik Slavin, Europe & Mideast Bureau Chief
slavin.eri@stripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9350; DSN (314)583.9350

Pacific

Aaron Kidd, Pacific Bureau Chief
kidd.aaron@stripes.com
+81.42.552.2511 ext. 88380; DSN (315)277.380

Washington

Joseph Cacchioni, Washington Bureau Chief
cacchioni.joseph@stripes.com
+1(202)886-0033
Brian Bowers, Assistant Managing Editor, News
bowers.brian@stripes.com

CIRCULATION

Mideast

Robert Reisman, Mideast Circulation Manager
reid.r.w.reisman@gmail.com
socialcirculation@stripes.com
DSN (314)583-9111

Europe

Memberships@stripes.com
+49(0)631.3615.9111; DSN (314)583.9111

Pacific

Mar Mori, customerhelp@stripes.com
+81-3 6385.3171; DSN (315)229.3171

CONTACT US

Washington

tel: +1(202.886.0005
633 3rd St. NW, Suite 116, Washington, DC 20001-3050

Reader letters

letters@stripes.com

Additional contacts

stripes.com/contactus

OMBUDESMAN

The Stars and Stripes ombudsman protects the free flow of news and information, reporting any attempts by the military or other authorities to undermine the newspaper's independence. The ombudsman also responds to concerns and questions from readers, and monitors coverage for fairness, accuracy, timeliness and balance. The ombudsman welcomes comments from readers, and can be contacted by phone at 202.886.0005.

Stars and Stripes (USPS 0471900) is published weekdays (except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1) 50 cents Monday through Thursday and for \$1 on Fridays by Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AF 96301-5002. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, CA. Postmaster: Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AF 96301-5002.

This newspaper is authorized by the Department of Defense for distribution to the military services overseas. However, the contents of Stars and Stripes are unofficial, and are not to be considered as the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government. As a DOD newspaper, Stars and Stripes may be distributed through official channels and use appropriated funds for distribution to remote locations where overseas DOD personnel are located.

The appearance of advertising in this newspaper does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense or Stars and Stripes of the products or services advertised. Products or services advertised shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

© Stars and Stripes 2019

stripes.com

OPINION

Trump's numbers still point to re-election

By HENRY OLSEN

The Washington Post

When President Donald Trump signed a spending agreement at the end of January to reopen the government, the consensus seemed to be that the face-off with Democrats in Congress would politically damage him. Once again, his critics were wrong.

Today, Trump's job approval ratings are back to pre-shutdown levels, only two or three points below a level that would make him the favorite to win re-election. He initiated the shutdown in comparatively good political shape, with average approval ratings at 42.5 percent when the shutdown began on Dec. 22, according to Real Clear Politics. His ratings dipped while it was occurring, hitting a low of 40.9 percent during the crisis.

His ratings quickly rebounded, however, immediately after his Feb. 5 State of the Union address. By March 3, they stood at 44.4 percent, near his high-water mark since the early days of his presidency. Today, they stand at 43.5 percent, a point higher than when the shutdown started and well within the range he has sat at for most of the past year.

This was completely predictable, yet the usual parade of analysts got it wrong. Writing at the shutdown's end, most said that Trump was clearly the loser — that House Speaker Nancy Pelosi had outmaneuvered him and that he had caved without getting a good deal for his base. He was even called a “wimp” by conservative commentator Ann Coulter, one of his earliest backers and the author of “In Trump We Trust.”

This spectacular failure to understand Trump's appeal is simply par for the establishment course. Trump's voters understand he faces intense opposition to enact his agenda. How could they fail to see it,

since they are reminded of that fact every time they open a newspaper or turn on the television?

Faced with that, Trump's supporters do not expect he will win. They are happy when he does, but with commentators, actors and comics united against him nearly every day, they easily understand when he doesn't. For the mass of his fans, all he must do is fight — and fight he did during the 35-day shutdown.

Trump's support is remarkably stable and resilient. His job approval ratings have wavered between 42 percent and 44 percent for nearly a year now. They have dipped twice, once after Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., passed away and again during the shutdown. Both times, they rose sharply when the event passed from the scene.

This gives Trump an enormous opportunity to move forward. Assuming the economy stays strong and neither the Mueller report nor congressional investigations reveals a smoking gun directly implicating the president in an illegal act — two big ifs — he is tantalizingly close to the level of support where he becomes the favorite for re-election.

Data from the 2018 exit poll clearly show that Trump's job approval ratings in the RCP average was a shade over 43 percent on Election Day, but the exit poll pegged it at 45 percent. More importantly, his approval rating stood at 50 percent or higher in every state he carried except Wisconsin, Michigan and Pennsylvania. His approval stood at 48 percent in Wisconsin, where incumbent Republican Gov. Scott Walker lost by less than 1 percent.

Extrapolating from those data, if Trump could raise his job approval rating in the national average by only 2 or 3 percentage points, he would almost certainly have more than 50 percent approval in enough states to win the Electoral College. That's crucial because presidents running for re-

election tend to receive a slightly higher share of the vote than their job approval ratings. President George W. Bush was at about 50 percent in the RCP average on Election Day 2004 and received 50.7 percent of the vote. President Barack Obama was also around 50 percent and received 51 percent of the vote.

Based on those data, if Trump is at 50 percent or higher in these states, he will likely win re-election no matter who Democrats nominate for 2020. And he's almost there.

The same analysts who said Trump was irretrievably hurt by the shutdown will surely say he can't do this. His job approval rating has not been above 45 percent nationally since February 2017. Every time he comes close to that mark, his ratings drop again. They will likely argue there is some magic ceiling on Trump's support that he just can't break through.

The problem is we've heard all of that before. Similar predictions were made during the Republican primaries and the 2016 general election. Trump was supposedly going to be sunk by his statements after the white supremacist rally in Charlottesville, Va., and his policy of separating refugee children from their parents at the border, to name two such instances. Yet, like the little engine who could, Trump just keeps plugging along.

Trump might not be capable of surmounting that last hurdle. But many analysts seem to be so blinded by their hatred that they just can't see what's plainly in front of their noses. Trump wasn't hurt by the shutdown, just as he wasn't hurt by similarly transient events. Don't discount the possibility that he might again shock the political establishment in the coming months.

Henry Olsen is a Washington Post columnist focusing on politics, populism and American conservative thought.

Reagan knew how to apologize. Trump? Not so much.

By MARK WEINBERG

Special to The Washington Post

Thirty-two years ago, Ronald Reagan gave what many believe was his most difficult and least favorite speech of his career. Some would say it was the most important.

Usually, when getting ready to address the nation in a prime-time Oval Office address, Reagan looked forward to it, or at least accepted the circumstances requiring him to do so. For example, he was energized to rally the nation behind his economic program, he was determined to call out the Soviet Union for its role in downing a commercial South Korean jetliner, he wanted to comfort the country as we grieved the loss of the space shuttle Challenger, he was excited to announce his candidacy for re-election, and he was proud to review his administration's record, while a bit sad to say goodbye, in his farewell address.

But things were different on the night of March 4, 1987, which, as it happened, was the Reagan's 35th wedding anniversary. The long-awaited speech about the Iran-Contra affair — the illegal sale of U.S. arms to Iran and diversion of profits to the anti-communist Contras in Nicaragua — was no cause for joy. The White House was not a happy place. While many of us on the staff were relieved that the president would say what needed to be said, we knew it was not a speech he had ever anticipated having to give, nor was it one that he wanted. But he knew he had to.

It turned out to be a watershed moment for the Reagan presidency. By uttering the words the nation had long waited to hear, Reagan was able to turn the corner on Iran-Contra.

It had taken a while for Reagan to get to that point. While he was shocked and disappointed when first told about Iran-Contra, he knew for sure that he had not directly or indirectly approved of what men he trusted had done. And he was somewhat reluctant to believe it. It was not until he received and read the report of the Tower Commission — the bipartisan group he appointed to examine what happened and make recommendations for future operations of the National Security Council — that he fully realized the magnitude of what had taken place and what he had to do. Once he did, there was no hesitation.

He was heavily involved in the writing of that speech. This is what he said:

“I take full responsibility for my own actions and for those of my administration. As angry as I may be about activities undertaken without my knowledge, I am still accountable for those activities. As disappointed as I may be in some who served me, I'm still the one who must answer to the American people for this behavior. And as personally distasteful as I find secret bank accounts and diverted funds — well, as the Navy would say, this happened on my watch.”

What may have bothered Reagan most about the Iran-Contra affair was not what his rogue subordinates did — although he was mad about it — it was that polls showed

the public did not believe him when he repeatedly said he was not aware of the scheme. He knew that without the people's trust, he could not govern effectively, but even more than that, he just could not accept the fact that he was telling the truth but some people thought he was lying.

Contrast that, if you will, with the current president. It is widely accepted that President Donald Trump lies many times a day. As bad as that is, what's worse is that he does not seem to care. Rarely if ever does he accept responsibility for his own mistakes or those of his subordinates. On the contrary, he always blames someone or something else for any failure. Nothing is ever his fault.

Equally obnoxious is how often he credits himself for things he did not accomplish. On his desk in the Oval Office, Reagan had a sign that said, “There is no limit to what a man can accomplish or where he can go if he does not mind who gets the credit.” Sadly, Trump has turned that principle of leadership — giving credit and taking responsibility — on its head.

For better or worse, Trump is who he is. We have no right to expect him to be Ronald Reagan. But telling the truth and accepting responsibility — even when unpleasant and unwelcome — are as basic as it gets when it comes to being a president with character and integrity, and we have every right to expect that of him.

Mark Weinberg, a communications consultant, served as speech assistant to the president and assistant press secretary in Ronald Reagan's White House and is the author of “Movie Nights with the Redskins.”

Looking at the news

A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons

TIM CAMPBELL
WASHINGTON POST NEWS SERVICE



CLEANLINESS IS NEXT TO GODLINESS

TIM CAMPBELL/Washington Post News Service



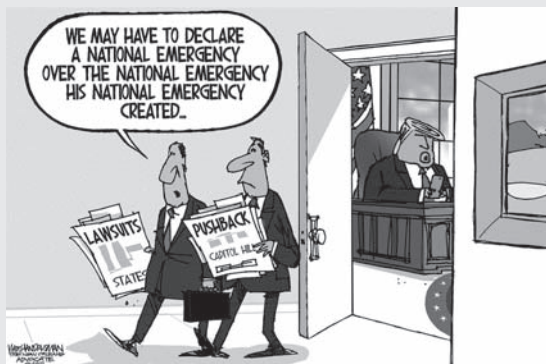
JIM MORIN
MORINTOONS SYNDICATE

JIM MORIN/MorinToons Syndicate

LISA BENSON
WASHINGTON POST WRITERS GROUP



LISA BENSON/Washington Post Writers Group



WALT HANDELSMAN/Tribune Content Agency

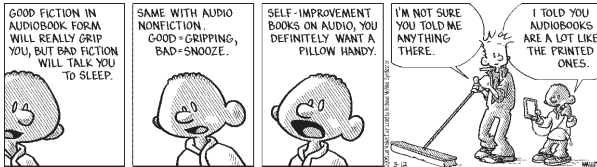
TIM CAMPBELL
WASHINGTON POST NEWS SERVICE



KING OF POP

TIM CAMPBELL/Washington Post News Service

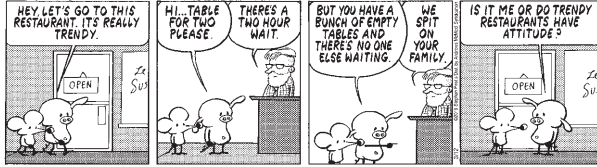
Frazz



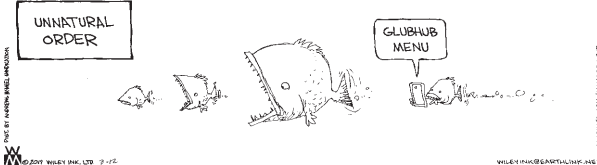
Dilbert



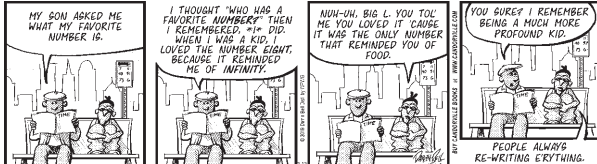
Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



Candorville



Carpe Diem



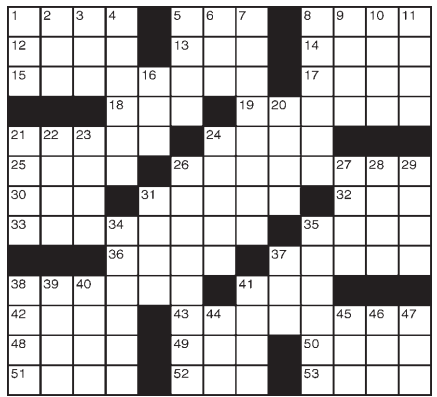
Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Offend
- 5 Vegas lead-in
- 8 Biting remark
- 12 Jacob's twin
- 13 Antlered animal
- 14 Latin love
- 15 Printout
- 17 Earring site
- 18 Roscoe
- 19 More slothful
- 21 Filled fully
- 24 — colada
- 25 Cupid's alias
- 26 Street vendor's vehicle
- 30 Sawbuck
- 31 Attorney's load
- 32 Bee follower
- 33 Barber's offerings
- 35 Panache
- 36 Aachen article
- 37 Utter impulsively
- 38 Architectural style
- 41 Hero sandwich
- 42 Actress Perlman
- 43 Ski lodge cupful
- 48 "A Room of — Own"
- 49 Prior night
- 50 Not so hot?
- 51 "Holy cow!"
- 52 Enervate
- 53 Trade

DOWN

- 1 "I'm not impressed"
- 2 "This — recording"
- 3 Distant
- 4 Fakes, as figures
- 5 Author Uris
- 6 Jungfrau, for one
- 7 Urban silhouettes
- 8 French novelist
- 9 Mine, to Marcel
- 10 Judicial garb
- 11 Rabbit's title
- 16 Cow's chaw
- 20 &&&&
- 21 Actor Rogen
- 22 Location
- 23 Singer Braxton
- 24 Stickum
- 26 Hindquarters
- 27 Rights advocacy org.
- 28 Bring up
- 29 Bivouac shelter
- 31 Roman 20
- 34 Go over again
- 35 Macaroni shapes
- 37 Tampa Bay
- NFLer
- 38 Pirate's drink
- 39 "It can't be!"
- 40 Golf props
- 41 Dance move
- 44 Eggs
- 45 Cornfield noise
- 46 Mouths (Lat.)
- 47 Music booster

Answer to Previous Puzzle



3-12

CRYPTOQUIP

B FYNGGAR KBFSKCJ KT KSA
GNQW TL KSNK FDJ'U LTTK
YACAVKCAUUCJ, DVKBC NK


CNUK SA QYBAR "NVWCA!"
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN THE THIEF WANTED SOME SMALL CHOCOLATES, DO YOU THINK HE WAS GUILTY OF STEALING KISSES?
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals G

FREE AD Guidelines:

- Free ads are available only DOD ID Card holders selling personal merchandise.
- Ads may contain up to 32 words. All Ads must contain price and contact information. No websites will be accepted in Free ads.
- Stars and Stripes reserves the right to re-classify, rewrite and reject any ads.

STARS AND STRIPES CLASSIFIED

Go to stripes.com to place your free ad. *Sell fast/ Buy fast*

When you see this 
camera icon go to stripes.com
to view the uploaded photo.

Advertising	EUROPE	MIDDLE EAST	PACIFIC
Kristi Kimmel kimmel,kristi@stripes.com +49(0)631-3615-9013 DSN 314,583,9013	Kristi Kimmel kimmel,kristi@stripes.com +49(0)631-3615-9013 DSN 314,583,9013	Ichiro Katayanagi CustomerHelp@stripes.com +81(3) 6385,3267 DSN 315,229,3267	
Van Rowell rowell,van@stripes.com +49(0)631,3615,9111 DSN 314,583,9111	Robert Reismann reismann,robert@stripes.com +49(0)631,3615,9150 DSN 314,583,9150	Mari Matsumoto SSPCirculation@stripes.com +81(3) 6385,3171 DSN 315,229,3171	
Reader Letters letters@stripes.com	letters@stripes.com	letters@stripes.com	

Classifieds EUROPE

For information on Commercial Rates: CIV: 0631-3615-9012 or DSN: 583-9012

Announcements 040

Automotive 140

Tax Assistance 940

SCAM FADS

Classifieds scams can target both sellers and buyers with classifieds advertisements.

Be aware of the common red flags.

Some of the latest Scam fads are:

- Vehicle buyers wanting to buy sight unseen and have the vehicle shipped through an agent using paypal.
- People saying Free Dog (different breeds) for adoption.

Autos for Sale • Germany 142

Auto • Quality Prowound
US SPEC Vehicles
www.vifsc.com
Free Europe-wide delivery

SELLER BEWARE

Individuals placing classified advertising should use discretion in concluding the sale of their property. Not all potential buyers are reputable or honest. Stars and Stripes suggests that you take precautions to ensure that potential buyers are reputable and will be able to fulfill the terms of the sale. Stars and Stripes is not liable for the contractual relationship between sellers and buyers of merchandise advertised in the newspaper or on the web site.

Travel 1000

"Spring in Garmisch" Hotel Forsthaus Oberau 8 km of Garmisch Hot tub/sauna Steam PP, DBL, excp. free priat, dogs welcome. 0882-491150 www.forsthaus-oberau.de

H&R BLOCK®



Germany H&R Block Tax
Offices Get face-to-face tax help.

Ramstein Wiesbaden Vilseck
06371-8020410 06134-256963 01735-736112

Email: ecdemons@hrblock.com

Free Classifieds!

Visit Stripes.com for details.

STARS AND STRIPES

Are you in the picture?



Reading Stars and Stripes gives you a better handle on issues that affect you most.
No one covers the bases the way we do.

STARS AND STRIPES

In print • Online at stripes.com • Mobile for Android, iPhone & iPad

Career CENTER



Troops to Teachers is a military career transition program that helps eligible members of the armed forces begin new careers as K-12 public school teachers. Skills acquired in the military like leadership, initiative, discipline, integrity, and the ability to thrive in an ever-changing environment are a natural fit for the classroom.

Apply at proudservesagain.com.
Become a part of the Texas teaching family.

Contact us at texastroopstoteachers.org
or 800-810-5484.

Are you in the picture?



Reading Stars and Stripes gives you a better handle on issues that affect you most.
No one covers the bases the way we do.

STARS AND STRIPES

In print • Online at stripes.com • Mobile for Android, iPhone & iPad

SCOREBOARD/SPORTS BRIEFS

College hockey

Conference tournaments

ATLANTIC HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

First Round

(Best-of-3)

Friday, March 8

Army 3, Mercyhurst 2, OT

Niagara 5, Canisius 4, 2OT

Robert Morris 1, Holy Cross 0

Saturday, March 9

Canisius 4, Niagara 3, OT, series tied

1-1

Army 5, Mercyhurst 1, Army advances

2-0

Robert Morris 3, Holy Cross 2, Robert Morris advances

Sunday, March 10

Niagara 2, Canisius 1, Niagara advances

2-1

Quarterfinals

(Best-of-3)

Wednesday, March 13

RIT at Sacred Heart, 7:05 p.m.

Thursday, March 14

RIT at Sacred Heart, 7:05 p.m.

Friday, March 15

Army at American International

Robert Morris at Bentley

RIT at Sacred Heart (if necessary)

Saturday, March 16

Army at American International

Robert Morris at Bentley

Niagara at RIT (if necessary)

AT Hockey Center

Buffalo, N.Y.

Semifinals

Friday, March 22

Highest-remaining seed vs. lowest-remaining seed

Middle two remaining seeds

Championship

Saturday, March 23

Semifinal winners

BIG TEN CONFERENCE

First Round

(Best-of-3)

Friday, March 8

Notre Dame 1, Michigan State 0

Minnesota 3, Michigan 2, OT

Wisconsin 4, Penn State 3

Saturday, March 9

Minnesota 4, Michigan 3

Minnesota advances 2-0

Penn State 6, Wisconsin 2, series tied

1-1

Notre Dame 2, Michigan State 0, Notre Dame advances 2-0

Sunday, March 10

Penn State 4, Wisconsin 3, OT, Penn State advances 2-1

Semifinals

Saturday, March 16

Minnesota at Notre Dame

Sunday, March 17

Penn State at Ohio State

Championship

Saturday, March 23, or Sunday, March 24

Lower-seeded semifinal winner at higher-seeded semifinal winner, TBA

First Round

(Best-of-3)

Friday, March 8

Dartmouth 3, St. Lawrence 2

Union 4, Colgate 1

Brown 3, Princeton 0

Saturday, March 9

St. Lawrence 3, Dartmouth 2, OT, series tied 1-1

Yale 4, RPI 0, Yale advances 2-0

Union 4, Colgate 0, Union advances 2-0

Brown 4, Princeton 2, Brown advances 2-0

Sunday, March 10

Dartmouth 5, St. Lawrence 0, Dartmouth advances 2-1

Quarterfinals

(Best-of-3)

Friday, March 15

Brown at Harvard

Dartmouth at Quinnipiac

Union at Cornell

Saturday, March 16

Brown at Harvard

Dartmouth at Quinnipiac

Yale at Clarkson

Union at Cornell

Sunday, March 17 (if necessary)

Dartmouth at Harvard

Brown at Quinnipiac

Yale at Clarkson

Union at Cornell

At 1800 Rink-Herb Brooks Arena

Lake Placid, N.Y.

Semifinals

Friday, March 22

TBD

Championship

Saturday, March 23

Semifinal winners

HOCKEY EAST

First Round

(Best-of-3)

Friday, March 15

Maine at Northeastern

Boston College at Providence

New Hampshire at UMass Lowell

Saturday, March 16

Maine at Northeastern

Boston College at Providence

New Hampshire at UMass Lowell

Boston College at Providence

New Hampshire at UMass Lowell

Maine at Northeastern

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE

HOCKEY CONFERENCE

First Round

(Best-of-3)

Friday, March 15

Colorado College at Western Michigan

Miami at St. Cloud State

Omaha at Minnesota Duluth

North Dakota at Denver

Saturday, March 16

Colorado College at Western Michigan

Miami at St. Cloud State

Omaha at Minnesota Duluth

North Dakota at Denver

Sunday, March 17 (if necessary)

Colorado College at Western Michigan

Miami at St. Cloud State

Omaha at Minnesota Duluth

North Dakota at Denver

At Saint Paul, Minn.

Semifinals

Friday, March 22

Highest-seeded first-round winner vs. lowest-seeded first-round winner

Second-seeded first-round winner vs. third-seeded first-round winner

Championship

Saturday, March 23

Semifinal winners

Third Place

Semifinal losers

WESTERN COLLEGIATE

HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

First Round

(Best-of-3)

Friday, March 8

Lake Superior State 4, Bemidji State 2

Northern Michigan 5, Alaska 4, 2OT

Bowling Green 3, Michigan Tech 2

Minnesota State 3, Northern Michigan State 1

Saturday, March 9

Lake Superior State 3, Bemidji State 1

LSU advances 2-0

Northern Michigan 4, Alaska 3, NMU advances 2-0

Saginaw Green 6, Michigan Tech 2

BGSU advances 2-0

Minnesota State 4, Alabama Huntsville 1, MSU advances 2-0

Semifinals

(Best-of-3)

Friday, March 15

Bowling Green at Northern Michigan

Lake Superior State at Minnesota State

Saturday, March 16

Bowling Green at Northern Michigan

Lake Superior State at Minnesota State

Championship

Saturday, March 23

At higher-remaining seed

Semifinal winner

Wake Forest 7, Notre Dame 4

W5-Oshkosh 4, Rhodes 2

Webster International 3, Ambrose 4

MIDWEST

Dayton 7-1, Canisius 13

DePaul 2, Manchester 1

Evansville 3-6, Iowa 1

Miami (Ohio) 5, Youngstown St. 1

Missouri Valley 6, Peru St. 7

Point Park 10, Rio Grande 1

UT Martin 3, SE Missouri 0

Central Methodist 6, Graceland (Iowa)

Cincinnati 4-4, Bowling Green 3-3

Clarke 2, Baker 1

Dayton 17, Canisius 13

DePaul 2, Manchester 1

Evansville 3-6, Iowa 1

Miami (Ohio) 5, Youngstown St. 1

Missouri Valley 6, Peru St. 7

Point Park 10, Rio Grande 1

UT Martin 3, SE Missouri 0

Central Methodist 6, Graceland (Iowa)

Cincinnati 4-4, Bowling Green 3-3

Clarke 2, Baker 1

Dayton 17, Canisius 13

DePaul 2, Manchester 1

Evansville 3-6, Iowa 1

Miami (Ohio) 5, Youngstown St. 1

Missouri Valley 6, Peru St. 7

Point Park 10, Rio Grande 1

UT Martin 3, SE Missouri 0

Central Methodist 6, Graceland (Iowa)

Cincinnati 4-4, Bowling Green 3-3

Clarke 2, Baker 1

Dayton 17, Canisius 13

DePaul 2, Manchester 1

Evansville 3-6, Iowa 1

Miami (Ohio) 5, Youngstown St. 1

Missouri Valley 6, Peru St. 7

Point Park 10, Rio Grande 1

UT Martin 3, SE Missouri 0

Central Methodist 6, Graceland (Iowa)

Cincinnati 4-4, Bowling Green 3-3

Clarke 2, Baker 1

Dayton 17, Canisius 13

DePaul 2, Manchester 1

Evansville 3-6, Iowa 1

Miami (Ohio) 5, Youngstown St. 1

Missouri Valley 6, Peru St. 7

Point Park 10, Rio Grande 1

UT Martin 3, SE Missouri 0

Central Methodist 6, Graceland (Iowa)

Cincinnati 4-4, Bowling Green 3-3

Clarke 2, Baker 1

Dayton 17, Canisius 13

DePaul 2, Manchester 1

Evansville 3-6, Iowa 1

Miami (Ohio) 5, Youngstown St. 1

Missouri Valley 6, Peru St. 7

Point Park 10, Rio Grande 1

UT Martin 3, SE Missouri 0

Central Methodist 6, Graceland (Iowa)

Cincinnati 4-4, Bowling Green 3-3

Clarke 2, Baker 1

Dayton 17, Canisius 13

DePaul 2, Manchester 1

Evansville 3-6, Iowa 1

Miami (Ohio) 5, Youngstown St. 1

Missouri Valley 6, Peru St. 7

Point Park 10, Rio Grande 1

UT Martin 3, SE Missouri 0

Central Methodist 6, Graceland (Iowa)

Cincinnati 4-4, Bowling Green 3-3

Clarke 2, Baker 1

Dayton 17, Canisius 13

DePaul 2, Manchester 1

Evansville 3-6, Iowa 1

Miami (Ohio) 5, Youngstown St. 1

Missouri Valley 6, Peru St. 7

Point Park 10, Rio Grande 1

UT Martin 3, SE Missouri 0

Central Methodist 6, Graceland (Iowa)

Cincinnati 4-4, Bowling Green 3-3

Clarke 2, Baker 1

Dayton 17, Canisius 13

DePaul 2, Manchester 1

Evansville 3-6, Iowa 1

Miami (Ohio) 5, Youngstown St. 1

Missouri Valley 6, Peru St. 7

Point Park 10, Rio Grande 1

UT Martin 3, SE Missouri 0

Central Methodist 6, Graceland (Iowa)

Cincinnati 4-4, Bowling Green 3-3

Clarke 2, Baker 1

Dayton 17, Canisius 13

DePaul 2, Manchester 1

Evansville 3-6, Iowa 1

Miami (Ohio) 5, Youngstown St. 1

Missouri Valley 6, Peru St. 7

Point Park 10, Rio Grande 1

UT Martin 3, SE Missouri 0

Central Methodist 6, Graceland (Iowa)

Cincinnati 4-4, Bowling Green 3-3

Clarke 2, Baker 1

Dayton 17, Canisius 13

DePaul 2, Manchester 1

Evansville 3-6, Iowa 1

Miami (Ohio) 5, Youngstown St. 1

Missouri Valley 6, Peru St. 7

Point Park 10, Rio Grande 1

UT Martin 3, SE Missouri 0

Central Methodist 6, Graceland (Iowa)

Cincinnati 4-4, Bowling Green 3-3

Clarke 2, Baker 1

Dayton 17, Canisius 13

DePaul 2, Manchester 1

Evansville 3-6, Iowa 1

Miami (Ohio) 5, Youngstown St. 1

Missouri Valley 6, Peru St. 7

Point Park 10, Rio Grande 1

UT Martin 3, SE Missouri 0

Central Methodist 6, Graceland (Iowa)

Cincinnati 4-4, Bowling Green 3-3

Clarke 2, Baker 1

Dayton 17, Canisius 13

DePaul 2, Manchester 1

Evansville 3-6, Iowa 1

Miami (Ohio) 5, Youngstown St. 1

Missouri Valley 6, Peru St. 7

Point Park 10, Rio Grande 1

UT Martin 3, SE Missouri 0

Central Methodist 6, Graceland (Iowa)

Cincinnati 4-4, Bowling Green 3-3

Clarke 2, Baker 1

Dayton 17, Canisius 13

DePaul 2, Manchester 1

Evansville 3-6, Iowa 1

Miami (Ohio)

NHL



GENE J. PUSKAS/AP

Penguins goaltender Matt Murray stretches to block a shot in the third period against the Boston Bruins on Sunday in Pittsburgh. The Penguins won 4-2.

Roundup

Penguins stop Bruins' point streak at 19 games

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — For the first time in nearly two months, the Boston Bruins ran out of time. It tends to happen when the Bruins play in Pittsburgh, no matter how hot they are.

Jared McCann scored twice, Matt Murray finished with 39 saves and the Penguins handed the Bruins their first regulation loss since January with a 4-2 victory on Sunday night.

Boston came in 15-0-4 in its last 19 games for the franchise's longest point streak since 1940-41. A goal by John Moore with just over a minute to go sent Boston within one, but McCann's empty-netter with 21 seconds left made the Bruins regulation losers for the first time since Jan. 19 against the New York Rangers.

"I think we can be proud of that, but not satisfied," Moore said. "There's no reason we can't get back to work on Tuesday. That's the special part about this group. Guys really push each other. We expect a lot of out of each other."

Then again, so do the Penguins, who won for the fifth time in seven games to strengthen their position in the race for a playoff spot. Pittsburgh rose to third in the Metropolitan Division with 13 games to go thanks in part to another steady performance by Murray and another jolt from McCann and Nick Bjugstad, who have thrived since arriving in a trade with Florida on Feb. 1.

McCann had two goals — a short-handed breakthrough in the first and his flip from near center ice

in the waning seconds — gave him 16 goals on the season, eight of them coming in his 19 games with Pittsburgh. Bjugstad added his fifth with Pittsburgh, matching the point he put up in 32 games with Florida.

"They're two real good players and they've embraced the roles we put them in," Penguins coach Mike Sullivan said.

Jake Guentzel collected his team-high 34th goal for Pittsburgh, which kept Boston winless at PPG Paints Arena since December 2015 by jumping out early and then holding on late.

David Krejci picked up his 19th for the Bruins and Jaroslav Halak made 33 stops, but Boston was on its heels for most of the first period while falling into a two-goal deficit from which it couldn't recover.

"We were light on all the battles in the first," coach Bruce Cassidy said. "You could tell they were better prepared to win the pucks. It cost us a couple of goals."

Capitals 3, Jets 1: Carl Hagelin scored the go-ahead goal on a breakaway out of the penalty box and Phoenix Copley made 33 saves, helping host Washington to its seventh consecutive victory.

Led by Copley, Hagelin and Nick Jensen, the Capitals killed off all five minor penalties they took and won despite being out-shot 34-18. They haven't lost since adding Hagelin and Jensen to their lineup before the trade deadline and now lead the Metropolitan Division by four points.

Flames 6, Golden Knights 3: Matthew Tkachuk had his first

NHL hat trick, and host Calgary snapped Vegas's six-game winning streak.

Mikael Backlund added two goals and an assist for the Flames, who ended a four-game skid to move back atop the Pacific Division standings ahead of San Jose.

Playing alongside Tkachuk and Backlund, right wing Michael Frolik had four assists as the line combined for 11 points. Andrew Mangiapane also scored for Calgary, and David Rittich made 25 saves.

Panthers 6, Red Wings 1: Aleksander Barkov reached 30 goals for the first time in his career, and host Florida earned its second straight win since a costly six-game slide.

Josh Brown and Dryden Hunt each scored their first NHL goal for the Panthers. Jonathan Huberdeau had a goal and an assist, and Jamie McGinn and Frank Vatrano also scored.

Making his third NHL start, Sam Montembeault stopped 19 shots as the Panthers finished their season series against the Red Wings with a 3-0-1 record.

Kings 3, Ducks 2: Carl Grundstrom scored his second NHL goal in his second career game and visiting Los Angeles won for just the second time in 15 games.

Dustin Brown and Kyle Clifford also scored first-period goals, and Jonathan Quick made 18 saves in the 15th-place Kings' second win in the Freeway Faceoff rivalry this season.

Jakob Silfverberg and Daniel Sprong scored for the 14th-place Ducks.

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division							
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
x-Tampa Bay	69	52	13	4	108	266	181
Boston	69	42	18	9	93	207	173
Toronto	68	42	21	5	89	244	193
Montreal	69	36	26	7	79	208	207
Florida	69	30	27	12	72	224	234
Buffalo	68	30	29	9	69	194	219
Detroit	69	24	35	10	58	188	238
Ottawa	69	22	40	7	53	203	265

Ottawa	69	23	40	61	52	203	238
Metropolitan Division							
Washington	69	41	21	7	89	237	212
N.Y. Islanders	68	39	22	7	85	198	168
Pittsburgh	69	37	23	9	83	237	210
Carolina	68	37	24	7	81	205	191
Columbus	68	38	27	3	79	209	202
Philadelphia	68	33	27	8	74	209	226
N.Y. Rangers	68	28	28	12	68	196	224
New Jersey	69	25	35	9	59	191	232

Western Conference

	Central Division						
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Winnipeg	68	40	24	4	84	233	202
Nashville	70	39	26	5	83	210	189
St. Louis	68	36	25	7	79	198	188
Dallas	68	35	28	5	75	172	172
Minnesota	69	33	28	8	74	191	202
Colorado	69	30	27	12	72	223	215

Chicago	68	29	30	9	67	227	255
Pacific Division							
Calgary	69	42	20	7	91	241	199
San Jose	68	41	19	8	90	246	210
Vegas	70	38	27	5	81	212	196
Arizona	68	34	29	5	73	183	188
Edmonton	68	30	31	7	67	192	221
Vancouver	69	28	32	9	65	187	217
Anaheim	70	27	34	9	63	161	214
Los Angeles	69	25	36	8	58	164	220

Note: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

Saturday's games						
Colorado 3, Buffalo 2						
San Jose 3, St. Louis 2, OT						
N.Y. Rangers 4, New Jersey 2						
Philadelphia 5, N.Y. Islanders 2						
Toronto 3, Edmonton 2						
Boston 3, Pittsburgh 1						

Sunday						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay 3, Detroit 2						
Columbus 4, Pittsburgh 1						
Chicago 2, Dallas 1						
Carolina 5, Nashville 3						
Arizona 4, Los Angeles 2						
Vegas 6, Vancouver 2						

Monday's games						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington 5, Winnipeg 1						
Pittsburgh 4, Boston 2						
Calgary 6, Vegas 3						
Los Angeles 2, Anaheim 2						

Tuesday's games						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Ottawa at Philadelphia						
Tampa Bay at Toronto						
San Jose at Minnesota						
Arizona at Chicago						
N.Y. Rangers at Edmonton						
Carolina at Colorado						

Wednesday's games						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas at Buffalo						
Boston at Columbus						
Washington at Pittsburgh						
Detroit at Montreal						
San Jose at Winnipeg						
Arizona at St. Louis						
Los Angeles at Calgary						
Nashville at Anaheim						

Thursday's games						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose at Dallas						
Calgary at Nashville						
Edmonton at Vancouver						
Phoenix at St. Louis						
Washington at Tampa Bay						
Los Angeles at Anaheim						

Friday's games						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose at Dallas						
Calgary at Nashville						
Edmonton at Vancouver						
Phoenix at St. Louis						
Washington at Tampa Bay						
Los Angeles at Anaheim						

Saturday's games						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose at Dallas						
Calgary at Nashville						
Edmonton at Vancouver						
Phoenix at St. Louis						
Washington at Tampa Bay						
Los Angeles at Anaheim						

Sunday's games						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose at Dallas						
Calgary at Nashville						
Edmonton at Vancouver						
Phoenix at St. Louis						
Washington at Tampa Bay						
Los Angeles at Anaheim						

Monday's games						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose at Dallas						
Calgary at Nashville						
Edmonton at Vancouver						
Phoenix at St. Louis						
Washington at Tampa Bay						
Los Angeles at Anaheim						

Tuesday's games						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose at Dallas						
Calgary at Nashville						
Edmonton at Vancouver						
Phoenix at St. Louis						
Washington at Tampa Bay						
Los Angeles at Anaheim						

Wednesday's games						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose at Dallas						
Calgary at Nashville						
Edmonton at Vancouver						
Phoenix at St. Louis						
Washington at Tampa Bay						
Los Angeles at Anaheim						

Thursday's games						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose at Dallas						
Calgary at Nashville						
Edmonton at Vancouver						
Phoenix at St. Louis						
Washington at Tampa Bay						
Los Angeles at Anaheim						

Friday's games						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose at Dallas						
Calgary at Nashville						
Edmonton at Vancouver						
Phoenix at St. Louis						
Washington at Tampa Bay						
Los Angeles at Anaheim						

Saturday's games						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose at Dallas						
Calgary at Nashville						
Edmonton at Vancouver						
Phoenix at St. Louis						
Washington at Tampa Bay						
Los Angeles at Anaheim						

Sunday's games						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose at Dallas						
Calgary at Nashville						
Edmonton at Vancouver						
Phoenix at St. Louis						
Washington at Tampa Bay						
Los Angeles at Anaheim						

Monday's games						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose at Dallas						
Calgary at Nashville						
Edmonton at Vancouver						
Phoenix at St. Louis						
Washington at Tampa Bay						
Los Angeles at Anaheim						

Tuesday's games						
GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose at Dallas						
Calgary at Nashville						
Edmonton at Vancouver						
Phoenix at St. Louis						
Washington at Tampa Bay						
Los Angeles at Anaheim						

Capitals goaltender Phoenix Coy
Hayes during the third period on

AUTO RACING

Scoreboard

TicketGuardian 500

Sunday
AT ISM Raceway
Avondale, Ariz.
Length: 1 mile
(Start position in parentheses)
 1. (4) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 312.
 2. (1) Martin Truex Jr., Toyota, 312.
 3. (1) Ryan Hamilton, Ford, 312.
 4. (14) Aric Almirola, Ford, 312.
 5. (3) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 312.
 6. (31) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 312.
 7. (10) Kurt Busch, Chevrolet, 312.
 8. (15) Jimmie Johnson, Chevrolet, 312.
 9. (8) Kevin Harvick, Ford, 312.
 10. (12) Joey Logano, Ford, 312.
 11. (26) Clint Bowyer, Ford, 312.
 12. (18) Ryan Newman, Ford, 312.
 13. (19) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Ford, 312.
 14. (2) Chase Elliott, Chevrolet, 312.
 15. (20) Ty Dillon, Chevrolet, 312.
 16. (2) Chris Buescher, Chevrolet, 312.
 17. (17) Paul Menard, Ford, 311.
 18. (11) Daniel Hemric, Chevrolet, 311.
 19. (2) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 311.
 20. (20) Matt Tifft, Ford, 311.
 21. (13) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 311.
 22. (23) Bubba Wallace, Chevrolet, 311.
 23. (1) Daniel Suarez, Ford, 311.
 24. (7) William Byron, Chevrolet, 310.
 25. (24) Corey LaJoie, Ford, 310.
 26. (27) Ross Chastain, Chevrolet, 308.
 27. (25) Matt DiBenedetto, Toyota, 308.
 28. (10) Erik Jones, Toyota, 304.
 29. (35) Quin Houff, Chevrolet, 302.
 30. (36) Bayley Currey, Ford, 301.
 31. (32) Cody Ware, Chevrolet, 300.
 32. (23) Landon Cassill, Chevrolet, 267.
 33. (21) Ryan Preece, Chevrolet, 267.
 34. (22) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, 267.
 35. (6) Alex Bowman, Chevrolet, 267.
 36. (27) Michael McDowell, Ford, 267.
 37. (15) Michael McDowell, Ford, 267.

Speed Statistics
Average Race of Race Winner:
 101.693 mph.
Time of Race: 3:04:05. Margin of Victory: 1.1 seconds.
Caution Flags: 9 for 57 laps.
Lead Changes: 17 among 6 drivers.
Lead Leaders: R. Blaney 1-35K; Busch 36-40R; Blaney 41D; Hamilton 42-45K; Blaney 46-49D; Blaney 50-51D; Blaney 52-53D; Blaney 54-55D; Blaney 56-57D; Blaney 58-59D; Blaney 60-61D; Blaney 62-63D; Blaney 64-65D; Blaney 66-67D; Blaney 68-69D; Blaney 70-71D; Blaney 72-73D; Blaney 74-75D; Blaney 76-77D; Blaney 78-79D; Blaney 80-81D; Blaney 82-83D; Blaney 84-85D; Blaney 86-87D; Blaney 88-89D; Blaney 90-91D; Blaney 92-93D; Blaney 94-95D; Blaney 96-97D; Blaney 98-99D; Blaney 100-101D; Blaney 102-103D; Blaney 104-105D; Blaney 106-107D; Blaney 108-109D; Blaney 110-111D; Blaney 112-113D; Blaney 114-115D; Blaney 116-117D; Blaney 118-119D; Blaney 120-121D; Blaney 122-123D; Blaney 124-125D; Blaney 126-127D; Blaney 128-129D; Blaney 130-131D; Blaney 132-133D; Blaney 134-135D; Blaney 136-137D; Blaney 138-139D; Blaney 140-141D; Blaney 142-143D; Blaney 144-145D; Blaney 146-147D; Blaney 148-149D; Blaney 150-151D; Blaney 152-153D; Blaney 154-155D; Blaney 156-157D; Blaney 158-159D; Blaney 160-161D; Blaney 162-163D; Blaney 164-165D; Blaney 166-167D; Blaney 168-169D; Blaney 170-171D; Blaney 172-173D; Blaney 174-175D; Blaney 176-177D; Blaney 178-179D; Blaney 180-181D; Blaney 182-183D; Blaney 184-185D; Blaney 186-187D; Blaney 188-189D; Blaney 190-191D; Blaney 192-193D; Blaney 194-195D; Blaney 196-197D; Blaney 198-199D; Blaney 200-201D; Blaney 202-203D; Blaney 204-205D; Blaney 206-207D; Blaney 208-209D; Blaney 210-211D; Blaney 212-213D; Blaney 214-215D; Blaney 216-217D; Blaney 218-219D; Blaney 220-221D; Blaney 222-223D; Blaney 224-225D; Blaney 226-227D; Blaney 228-229D; Blaney 230-231D; Blaney 232-233D; Blaney 234-235D; Blaney 236-237D; Blaney 238-239D; Blaney 240-241D; Blaney 242-243D; Blaney 244-245D; Blaney 246-247D; Blaney 248-249D; Blaney 250-251D; Blaney 252-253D; Blaney 254-255D; Blaney 256-257D; Blaney 258-259D; Blaney 260-261D; Blaney 262-263D; Blaney 264-265D; Blaney 266-267D; Blaney 268-269D; Blaney 270-271D; Blaney 272-273D; Blaney 274-275D; Blaney 276-277D; Blaney 278-279D; Blaney 280-281D; Blaney 282-283D; Blaney 284-285D; Blaney 286-287D; Blaney 288-289D; Blaney 290-291D; Blaney 292-293D; Blaney 294-295D; Blaney 296-297D; Blaney 298-299D; Blaney 300-301D; Blaney 302-303D; Blaney 304-305D; Blaney 306-307D; Blaney 308-309D; Blaney 310-311D; Blaney 312-313D; Blaney 314-315D; Blaney 316-317D; Blaney 318-319D; Blaney 320-321D; Blaney 322-323D; Blaney 324-325D; Blaney 326-327D; Blaney 328-329D; Blaney 330-331D; Blaney 332-333D; Blaney 334-335D; Blaney 336-337D; Blaney 338-339D; Blaney 340-341D; Blaney 342-343D; Blaney 344-345D; Blaney 346-347D; Blaney 348-349D; Blaney 350-351D; Blaney 352-353D; Blaney 354-355D; Blaney 356-357D; Blaney 358-359D; Blaney 360-361D; Blaney 362-363D; Blaney 364-365D; Blaney 366-367D; Blaney 368-369D; Blaney 370-371D; Blaney 372-373D; Blaney 374-375D; Blaney 376-377D; Blaney 378-379D; Blaney 380-381D; Blaney 382-383D; Blaney 384-385D; Blaney 386-387D; Blaney 388-389D; Blaney 390-391D; Blaney 392-393D; Blaney 394-395D; Blaney 396-397D; Blaney 398-399D; Blaney 400-401D; Blaney 402-403D; Blaney 404-405D; Blaney 406-407D; Blaney 408-409D; Blaney 410-411D; Blaney 412-413D; Blaney 414-415D; Blaney 416-417D; Blaney 418-419D; Blaney 420-421D; Blaney 422-423D; Blaney 424-425D; Blaney 426-427D; Blaney 428-429D; Blaney 430-431D; Blaney 432-433D; Blaney 434-435D; Blaney 436-437D; Blaney 438-439D; Blaney 440-441D; Blaney 442-443D; Blaney 444-445D; Blaney 446-447D; Blaney 448-449D; Blaney 450-451D; Blaney 452-453D; Blaney 454-455D; Blaney 456-457D; Blaney 458-459D; Blaney 460-461D; Blaney 462-463D; Blaney 464-465D; Blaney 466-467D; Blaney 468-469D; Blaney 470-471D; Blaney 472-473D; Blaney 474-475D; Blaney 476-477D; Blaney 478-479D; Blaney 480-481D; Blaney 482-483D; Blaney 484-485D; Blaney 486-487D; Blaney 488-489D; Blaney 490-491D; Blaney 492-493D; Blaney 494-495D; Blaney 496-497D; Blaney 498-499D; Blaney 500-501D; Blaney 502-503D; Blaney 504-505D; Blaney 506-507D; Blaney 508-509D; Blaney 510-511D; Blaney 512-513D; Blaney 514-515D; Blaney 516-517D; Blaney 518-519D; Blaney 520-521D; Blaney 522-523D; Blaney 524-525D; Blaney 526-527D; Blaney 528-529D; Blaney 530-531D; Blaney 532-533D; Blaney 534-535D; Blaney 536-537D; Blaney 538-539D; Blaney 540-541D; Blaney 542-543D; Blaney 544-545D; Blaney 546-547D; Blaney 548-549D; Blaney 550-551D; Blaney 552-553D; Blaney 554-555D; Blaney 556-557D; Blaney 558-559D; Blaney 560-561D; Blaney 562-563D; Blaney 564-565D; Blaney 566-567D; Blaney 568-569D; Blaney 570-571D; Blaney 572-573D; Blaney 574-575D; Blaney 576-577D; Blaney 578-579D; Blaney 580-581D; Blaney 582-583D; Blaney 584-585D; Blaney 586-587D; Blaney 588-589D; Blaney 590-591D; Blaney 592-593D; Blaney 594-595D; Blaney 596-597D; Blaney 598-599D; Blaney 600-601D; Blaney 602-603D; Blaney 604-605D; Blaney 606-607D; Blaney 608-609D; Blaney 610-611D; Blaney 612-613D; Blaney 614-615D; Blaney 616-617D; Blaney 618-619D; Blaney 620-621D; Blaney 622-623D; Blaney 624-625D; Blaney 626-627D; Blaney 628-629D; Blaney 630-631D; Blaney 632-633D; Blaney 634-635D; Blaney 636-637D; Blaney 638-639D; Blaney 640-641D; Blaney 642-643D; Blaney 644-645D; Blaney 646-647D; Blaney 648-649D; Blaney 650-651D; Blaney 652-653D; Blaney 654-655D; Blaney 656-657D; Blaney 658-659D; Blaney 660-661D; Blaney 662-663D; Blaney 664-665D; Blaney 666-667D; Blaney 668-669D; Blaney 670-671D; Blaney 672-673D; Blaney 674-675D; Blaney 676-677D; Blaney 678-679D; Blaney 680-681D; Blaney 682-683D; Blaney 684-685D; Blaney 686-687D; Blaney 688-689D; Blaney 690-691D; Blaney 692-693D; Blaney 694-695D; Blaney 696-697D; Blaney 698-699D; Blaney 700-701D; Blaney 702-703D; Blaney 704-705D; Blaney 706-707D; Blaney 708-709D; Blaney 710-711D; Blaney 712-713D; Blaney 714-715D; Blaney 716-717D; Blaney 718-719D; Blaney 720-721D; Blaney 722-723D; Blaney 724-725D; Blaney 726-727D; Blaney 728-729D; Blaney 730-731D; Blaney 732-733D; Blaney 734-735D; Blaney 736-737D; Blaney 738-739D; Blaney 740-741D; Blaney 742-743D; Blaney 744-745D; Blaney 746-747D; Blaney 748-749D; Blaney 750-751D; Blaney 752-753D; Blaney 754-755D; Blaney 756-757D; Blaney 758-759D; Blaney 760-761D; Blaney 762-763D; Blaney 764-765D; Blaney 766-767D; Blaney 768-769D; Blaney 770-771D; Blaney 772-773D; Blaney 774-775D; Blaney 776-777D; Blaney 778-779D; Blaney 780-781D; Blaney 782-783D; Blaney 784-785D; Blaney 786-787D; Blaney 788-789D; Blaney 790-791D; Blaney 792-793D; Blaney 794-795D; Blaney 796-797D; Blaney 798-799D; Blaney 800-801D; Blaney 802-803D; Blaney 804-805D; Blaney 806-807D; Blaney 808-809D; Blaney 810-811D; Blaney 812-813D; Blaney 814-815D; Blaney 816-817D; Blaney 818-819D; Blaney 820-821D; Blaney 822-823D; Blaney 824-825D; Blaney 826-827D; Blaney 828-829D; Blaney 830-831D; Blaney 832-833D; Blaney 834-835D; Blaney 836-837D; Blaney 838-839D; Blaney 840-841D; Blaney 842-843D; Blaney 844-845D; Blaney 846-847D; Blaney 848-849D; Blaney 850-851D; Blaney 852-853D; Blaney 854-855D; Blaney 856-857D; Blaney 858-859D; Blaney 860-861D; Blaney 862-863D; Blaney 864-865D; Blaney 866-867D; Blaney 868-869D; Blaney 870-871D; Blaney 872-873D; Blaney 874-875D; Blaney 876-877D; Blaney 878-879D; Blaney 880-881D; Blaney 882-883D; Blaney 884-885D; Blaney 886-887D; Blaney 888-889D; Blaney 890-891D; Blaney 892-893D; Blaney 894-895D; Blaney 896-897D; Blaney 898-899D; Blaney 900-901D; Blaney 902-903D; Blaney 904-905D; Blaney 906-907D; Blaney 908-909D; Blaney 910-911D; Blaney 912-913D; Blaney 914-915D; Blaney 916-917D; Blaney 918-919D; Blaney 920-921D; Blaney 922-923D; Blaney 924-925D; Blaney 926-927D; Blaney 928-929D; Blaney 930-931D; Blaney 932-933D; Blaney 934-935D; Blaney 936-937D; Blaney 938-939D; Blaney 940-941D; Blaney 942-943D; Blaney 944-945D; Blaney 946-947D; Blaney 948-949D; Blaney 950-951D; Blaney 952-953D; Blaney 954-955D; Blaney 956-957D; Blaney 958-959D; Blaney 960-961D; Blaney 962-963D; Blaney 964-965D; Blaney 966-967D; Blaney 968-969D; Blaney 970-971D; Blaney 972-973D; Blaney 974-975D; Blaney 976-977D; Blaney 978-979D; Blaney 980-981D; Blaney 982-983D; Blaney 984-985D; Blaney 986-987D; Blaney 988-989D; Blaney 990-991D; Blaney 992-993D; Blaney 994-995D; Blaney 996-997D; Blaney 998-999D; Blaney 1000-1001D; Blaney 1002-1003D; Blaney 1004-1005D; Blaney 1006-1007D; Blaney 1008-1009D; Blaney 1010-1011D; Blaney 1012-1013D; Blaney 1014-1015D; Blaney 1016-1017D; Blaney 1018-1019D; Blaney 1020-1021D; Blaney 1022-1023D; Blaney 1024-1025D; Blaney 1026-1027D; Blaney 1028-1029D; Blaney 1030-1031D; Blaney 1032-1033D; Blaney 1034-1035D; Blaney 1036-1037D; Blaney 1038-1039D; Blaney 1040-1041D; Blaney 1042-1043D; Blaney 1044-1045D; Blaney 1046-1047D; Blaney 1048-1049D; Blaney 1050-1051D; Blaney 1052-1053D; Blaney 1054-1055D; Blaney 1056-1057D; Blaney 1058-1059D; Blaney 1060-1061D; Blaney 1062-1063D; Blaney 1064-1065D; Blaney 1066-1067D; Blaney 1068-1069D; Blaney 1070-1071D; Blaney 1072-1073D; Blaney 1074-1075D; Blaney 1076-1077D; Blaney 1078-1079D; Blaney 1080-1081D; Blaney 1082-1083D; Blaney 1084-1085D; Blaney 1086-1087D; Blaney 1088-1089D; Blaney 1090-1091D; Blaney 1092-1093D; Blaney 1094-1095D; Blaney 1096-1097D; Blaney 1098-1099D; Blaney 1100-1101D; Blaney 1102-1103D; Blaney 1104-1105D; Blaney 1106-1107D; Blaney 1108-1109D; Blaney 1110-1111D; Blaney 1112-1113D; Blaney 1114-1115D; Blaney 1116-1117D; Blaney 1118-1119D; Blaney 1120-1121D; Blaney 1122-1123D; Blaney 1124-1125D; Blaney 1126-1127D; Blaney 1128-1129D; Blaney 1130-1131D; Blaney 1132-1133D; Blaney 1134-1135D; Blaney 1136-1137D; Blaney 1138-1139D; Blaney 1140-1141D; Blaney 1142-1143D; Blaney 1144-1145D; Blaney 1146-1147D; Blaney 1148-1149D; Blaney 1150-1151D; Blaney 1152-1153D; Blaney 1154-1155D; Blaney 1156-1157D; Blaney 1158-1159D; Blaney 1160-1161D; Blaney 1162-1163D; Blaney 1164-1165D; Blaney 1166-1167D; Blaney 1168-1169D; Blaney 1170-1171D; Blaney 1172-1173D; Blaney 1174-1175D; Blaney 1176-1177D; Blaney 1178-1179D; Blaney 1180-1181D; Blaney 1182-1183D; Blaney 1184-1185D; Blaney 1186-1187D; Blaney 1188-1189D; Blaney 1190-1191D; Blaney 1192-1193D; Blaney 1194-1195D; Blaney 1196-1197D; Blaney 1198-1199D; Blaney 1200-1201D; Blaney 1202-1203D; Blaney 1204-1205D; Blaney 1206-1207D; Blaney 1208-1209D; Blaney 1210-1211D; Blaney 1212-1213D; Blaney 1214-1215D; Blaney 1216-1217D; Blaney 1218-1219D; Blaney 1220-1221D; Blaney 1222-1223D; Blaney 1224-1225D; Blaney 1226-1227D; Blaney 1228-1229D; Blaney 1230-1231D; Blaney 1232-1233D; Blaney 1234-1235D; Blaney 1236-1237D; Blaney 1238-1239D; Blaney 1240-1241D; Blaney 1242-1243D; Blaney 1244-1245D; Blaney 1246-1247D; Blaney 1248-1249D; Blaney 1250-1251D; Blaney 1252-1253D; Blaney 1254-1255D; Blaney 1256-1257D; Blaney 1258-1259D; Blaney 1260-1261D; Blaney 1262-1263D; Blaney 1264-1265D; Blaney 1266-1267D; Blaney 1268-1269D; Blaney 1270-1271D; Blaney 1272-1273D; Blaney 1274-1275D; Blaney 1276-1277D; Blaney 1278-1279D; Blaney 1280-1281D; Blaney 1282-1283D; Blaney 1284-1285D; Blaney 1286-1287D; Blaney 1288-1289D; Blaney 1290-1291D; Blaney 1292-1293D; Blaney 1294-1295D; Blaney 1296-1297D; Blaney 1298-1299D; Blaney 1300-1301D; Blaney 1302-1303D; Blaney 1304-1305D; Blaney 1306-1307D; Blaney 1308-1309D; Blaney 1310-1311D; Blaney 1312-1313D; Blaney 1314-1315D; Blaney 1316-1317D; Blaney 1318-1319D; Blaney 1320-1321D; Blaney 1322-1323D; Blaney 1324-1325D; Blaney 1326-1327D; Blaney 1328-1329D; Blaney 1330-1331D; Blaney 1332-1333D; Blaney 1334-1335D; Blaney 1336-1337D; Blaney 1338-1339D; Blaney 1340-1341D; Blaney 1342-1343D; Blaney 1344-1345D; Blaney 1346-1347D; Blaney 1348-1349D; Blaney 1350-1351D; Blaney 1352-1353D; Blaney 1354-1355D; Blaney 1356-1357D; Blaney 1358-1359D; Blaney 1360-1361D; Blaney 1362-1363D; Blaney 1364-1365D; Blaney 1366-1367D; Blaney 1368-1369D; Blaney 1370-1371D; Blaney 1372-1373D; Blaney 1374-1375D; Blaney 1376-1377D; Blaney 1378-1379D; Blaney 1380-1381D; Blaney 1382-1383D; Blaney 1384-1385D; Blaney 1386-1387D; Blaney 1388-1389D; Blaney 1390-1391D; Blaney 1392-1393D; Blaney 1394-1395D; Blaney 1396-1397D; Blaney 1398-1399D; Blaney 1400-1401D; Blaney 1402-1403D; Blaney 1404-1405D; Blaney 1406-1407D; Blaney 1408-1409D; Blaney 1410-1411D; Blaney 1412-1413D; Blaney 1414-1415D; Blaney 1416-1417D; Blaney 1418-1419D; Blaney 1420-1421D; Blaney 1422-1423D; Blaney 1424-1425D; Blaney 1426-1427D; Blaney 1428-1429D; Blaney 1430-1431D; Blaney 1432-1433D; Blaney 1434-1435D; Blaney 1436-1437D; Blaney 1438-1439D; Blaney 1440-1441D; Blaney 1442-1443D; Blaney 1444-1445D; Blaney 1446-1447D; Blaney 1448-1449D; Blaney 1450-1451D; Blaney 1452-1453D; Blaney 1454-1455D; Blaney 1456-1457D; Blaney 1458-1459D; Blaney 1460-1461D; Blaney 1462-1463D; Blaney 1464-1465D; Blaney 1466-1467D; Blaney 1468-1469D; Blaney 1470-1471D; Blaney 1472-1473D; Blaney 1474-1475D; Blaney 1476-1477D; Blaney 1478-1479D; Blaney 1480-1481D; Blaney 1482-1483D; Blaney 1484-1485D; Blaney 1486-1487D; Blaney 1488-1489D; Blaney 1490-1491D; Blaney 1492-1493D; Blaney 1494-1495D; Blaney 1496-1497D; Blaney 1498-1499D; Blaney 1500-1501D; Blaney 1502-1503D; Blaney 1504-1505D; Blaney 1506-1507D; Blaney 1508-1509D; Blaney 1510-1511D; Blaney 1512-1513D; Blaney 1514-1515D; Blaney 1516-1517D; Blaney 1518-1519D; Blaney 1520-1521D; Blaney 1522-1523D; Blaney 1524-1525D; Blaney 1526-1527D; Blaney 1528-1529D; Blaney 1530-1531D; Blaney 1532-1533D; Blaney 1534-1535D; Blaney 1536-1537D; Blaney 1538-1539D; Blaney 1540-1541D; Blaney 1542-1543D; Blaney 1544-1545D; Blaney 1546-1547D; Blaney 1548-1549D; Blaney 1550-1551D; Blaney 1552-1553D; Blaney 1554-1555D; Blaney 1556-1557D; Blaney 1558-1559D; Blaney 1560-1561D; Blaney 1562-1563D; Blaney 1564-1565D; Blaney 1566-1567D; Blaney 1568-1569D; Blaney 1570-1571D; Blaney 1572-1573D; Blaney 1574-1575D; Blaney 1576-1577D; Blaney 1578-1579D; Blaney 1580-1581D; Blaney 1582-1583D; Blaney 1584-1585D; Blaney 1586-1587D; Blaney 1588-1589D; Blaney 1590-1591D; Blaney 1592-1593D; Blaney 1594-1595D; Blaney 1596-1597D; Blaney 1598-1599D; Blaney 1600-1601D; Blaney 1602-1603D; Blaney 1604-1605D; Blaney 1606-1607D; Blaney 1608-1609D; Blaney 1610-1611D; Blaney 1612-1613D; Blaney 1614-1615D; Blaney 1616-1617D; Blaney 1618-1619D; Blaney 1620-1621D; Blaney 1622-1623D; Blaney 1624-1625D; Blaney 1626-1627D; Blaney 1628-1629D; Blaney 1630-1631D; Blaney 1632-1633D; Blaney 1634-1635D; Blaney 1636-1637D; Blaney 1638-1639D; Blaney 1640-1641D; Blaney 1642-1643D; Blaney 1644-1645D; Blaney 1646-1647D; Blaney 1648-1649D; Blaney 1650-1651D; Blaney 1652-1653D; Blaney 1654-1655D; Blaney 1656-1657D; Blaney 1658-1659D; Blaney 1660-1661D; Blaney 1662-1663D; Blaney 1664-1665D; Blaney 1666-1667D; Blaney 1668-1669D; Blaney 1670-1671D; Blaney 1672-1673D; Blaney 1674-1675D; Blaney 1676-1677D; Blaney 1678-1679D; Blaney 1680-1681D; Blaney 1682-1683D; Blaney 1684-1685D; Blaney 1686-1687D; Blaney 1688-1689D; Blaney 1690-1691D; Blaney 1692-1693D; Blaney 1694-1695D; Blaney 1696-1697D; Blaney 1698-1699D; Blaney 1700-1701D; Blaney 1702-1703D; Blaney 1704-1705D; Blaney 1706-1707D; Blaney 1708-1709D; Blaney 1710-1711D; Blaney 1712-1713D; Blaney 1714-1715D; Blaney 1716-1717D; Blaney 1718-1719D; Blaney 1720-1721D; Blaney 1722-1723D; Blaney 1724-1725D; Blaney 1726-1727D; Blaney 1728-1729D; Blaney 1730-1731D; Blaney 1732-1733D; Blaney 1734-1735D; Blaney 1736-1737D; Blaney 1738-1739D; Blaney 1740-1741D; Blaney 1742-1743D; Blaney 1744-1745D; Blaney 1746-1747D; Blaney 1748-1749D; Blaney 1750-1751D; Blaney 1752-1753D; Blaney 1754-1755D; Blaney 1756-1757D; Blaney 1758-1759D; Blaney 1760-1761D; Blaney 1762-1763D; Blaney 1764-1765D; Blaney 1766-1767D; Bl

MLB



PATRICK SEMANSKY/AP

Outfielder Adam Jones and the Arizona Diamondbacks have reportedly agreed to a one-year contract. The agreement is subject to a successful physical.

Briefs

D-backs ink CF Jones to 1-year deal

Associated Press

Outfielder Adam Jones and the Arizona Diamondbacks have agreed to a \$3 million, one-year contract, a person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press.

The person spoke on the condition of anonymity Sunday because the agreement was subject to a successful physical.

The 33-year-old Jones was an All-Star annually from 2012-15 and hit .265 with 29 homers and 83 RBIs in 2016. He batted .285 the following year but slipped to .262 homers and 73 RBIs, then dropped to .281 with 15 homers and 63 RBIs last year for an Orioles team that went a big league-worst 47-115. His streak of seven straight years of 20 or more homers ended last year.

AL Cy Young winner Snell gets small raise

PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. — The budget-minded Tampa Bay Rays have renewed the contract of pitcher Blake Snell, who's receiving a raise of only \$15,500 after winning the AL Cy Young award last season.

The 26-year-old lefty, who's not yet eligible for salary arbitration, will earn \$573,700 this year after making \$558,200 in 2018, when he was a first-time All-Star and went 21-5 with an AL-leading 1.89 ERA over 31 starts.

Snell, who led the AL in victories after winning just 11 games combined over the previous two seasons, has accrued 2 years, 72 days years of service — this year's cutoff was 2 years, 134 days.

"The Rays have the right under the collective-bargaining agreement to renew me at or near the league-minimum salary," Snell said. "They also have the ability to more adequately compensate me, as other organizations have done with players who have similar achievements to mine. The Rays chose the former."

Rosenthal brings closer mentality to Nats

Washington's opponents have more than just trio of aces to deal with

By CHUCK KING
Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — Even if Trevor Rosenthal isn't closing for Washington, he'll take the mound believing he is.

"I think that's what ultimately allowed me to be successful as a closer is I just have one mentality, one approach," Rosenthal said. "I approach every single inning kind of like I'm closing. I think that's ultimately allowed me to be successful and I plan on keeping that same approach in the future."

Rosenthal saved 93 games for St. Louis in 2014 and 2015 combined, but the Cardinals released him following the 2017 season after he underwent Tommy John surgery.

The righty didn't pitch in 2018 and signed a one year, \$8 million contract with the Nationals in October. He arrived at camp ready to fire.

In his first appearance of the spring, Rosenthal hit triple digits on the scoreboard's radar gun. The Nationals have encouraged him to back off a bit as he prepares to pitch in the majors for the first time since August 2017.

"He's been going great," Washington manager Dave Martinez said. "He wants to amp it up. It's more important for me that his mechanics are good to keep his arm strong."

Opponents who survive the three aces at the top of Washington's rotation — Max Scherzer, Stephen Strasburg and Patrick Corbin — will still have to navigate a trio of closers late in games.

In Sean Doolittle, Kyle Barraclough and Rosenthal the Nationals have three experienced closing arms at the back end of a bullpen that pitched to a 4.05 ERA last season, 15th best in baseball.



JEFF ROBERSON/AP

Washington pitcher Trevor Rosenthal throws during a spring training game in Jupiter, Fla. Rosenthal was an All-Star ERA last season, 15th best in baseball.

It starts — or, in this case, ends — with Doolittle.

"He's our closer," Washington manager Dave Martinez said.

A two-time All-Star, Doolittle saved 35 games for Washington last season and 28 the

year prior. With Rosenthal sharing the same bullpen, Martinez intends to occasionally use the left-handed Doolittle to match up against lefties in earlier innings.

"Having three guys that take that closer mentality into whatever inning that they pitch could really shorten the game," Doolittle said.

Done: Spring training a chance for reclamation projects to shine

FROM BACK PAGE

The strapping right-hander's career had crashed so hard that when the Royals finally designated him for assignment, then requested outright waivers, nobody wanted him. So he signed a minor league deal to return to the only club he'd ever known, unwilling or unable to give up on his big league dreams.

"You're just trying to ride it out," Zimmer said.

There are always stories to watch at spring training, whether it's the hot shot prospect or the aging star or the high-priced free agent. But often overlooked are the reclamation projects — guys like Zimmer and Royals teammate Bubba Starling who have been with the wringer.

You see, just like it's hard for them to give up on their dreams, it is often just as hard for an organization to give up on them. In most cases they were once prized prospects, high draft picks that were expected to be the building blocks of a championship team.

But whether it was injuries or ineffectiveness — often both — things never really panned out. But that doesn't necessarily mean the raw talent that so enamored scouts was merely a mirage.

So in the case of Zimmer, the Royals kept an eye on him last summer, watching him toil away at the new-age Driveline Baseball academy in Seattle.

He was impressive enough that the Royals gave him a major



CHARLIE RIEDEL/AP

Milwaukee Brewers left fielder Cory Spangenberg catches a fly ball during a spring training game earlier this month in Phoenix.

league contract with an invite to spring training, where he's so far allowed three hits and no runs in three appearances.

"We did lose faith in his ability to stay healthy," Royals general manager Dayton Moore admitted. "It's not personal. We love Kyle. Then he rededicated himself in a way that's been well-documented."

That's also why Moore signed Starling, the fifth overall pick in the 2011 draft, to a minor league deal. Starling was supposed to be the hometown boy made good, a product of nearby Gardner-Edgerton High School who signed with the Royals rather than playing quarterback at Nebraska.

Instead of starring in front of friends and family at Kauffman Stadium, though, Starling has been on a rudderless journey through the minor leagues.

"Yeah, the last six years have been tough, especially with injuries, staying healthy," Starling said.

The weariness is evident in Starling's still-boyish face. Gone is the peach fuzz of a high school senior, the scruff of an early 20s heartthrob, replaced these days by a full, bushy beard.

Yet the oblique injury that scuttled a breakthrough start to the 2017 season, and the dislocated finger that ruined last season are finally behind him. Starling is

finally having fun, and it's been hard to argue the results: He was hitting .471 with a pair of homers in nine spring games.

"Last night Bubba, a two-strike at-bat, he made some adjustments — so you know his mind is right — and he lined out to right field, but that's a really quality at-bat," said JJ Piccolo, who heads up the Royals' minor league operation. "We're really optimistic he's turning the corner."

Such reclamation projects can be found scattered across Florida and Arizona this time of year.

Cory Spangenberg was chosen 10th overall by the Padres in 2011, and started on opening day five years later. But he tore a quadriceps muscle in April, lost a competition for his starting infield job in the spring and eventually was cast aside, left to sign with the Brewers this past December.

Now, Spangenberg is trying to earn a job with Milwaukee as a utility man.

More often than not, though, such comebacks end in failure. Guys get hurt again, or they run out of patience, or opportunities vanish as clubs focus on young players showing more promise.

Yet the reason clubs continue to take fliers on reclamation projects, such as Zimmer and Starling with the Royals, boils down to what their GM called a simple and undeniable fact: "I would rather have them fail with us," Moore said, "than go somewhere else and succeed."

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Top 25 roundup

Houston gets by Cincinnati

Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Corey Davis Jr. scored a career-high 31 points Sunday, and No. 12 Houston dominated the second half for an 85-69 victory over No. 20 Cincinnati that clinched the American Athletic Conference's regular-season title outright.

The Cougars (29-2, 16-2) knocked off the defending champs and earned their first league title since 1992 in the Southwest Conference. Their 29 regular-season wins are a school record.

Down by six early in the second half, Nate Hinton hit back-to-back threes that started a 35-12 spurt. Davis' back-to-back threes put the Cougars up by 17 points and sent Cincinnati fans headed for the exits with 4:22 to go.

Last year, the Bearcats (25-6, 14-4) won the regular-season title and the AAC Tournament, beating Houston in the title game. This time, the Cougars swept the season series, winning in Cincinnati for the first time after 16 losses.

Jarron Cumberland scored 20 points for Cincinnati.

No. 21 Wisconsin 73, Ohio State 67 (OT): Khalil Iverson had a career-high 22 points and 14 rebounds as Wisconsin survived Ohio State's second-half rally.

Wisconsin (22-9, 14-6) led by as many as 23 points early in the second half. But Ohio State (18-13, 8-12) outscored the Badgers 27-5 over the last seven minutes of regulation to force overtime.

No. 22 Wofford 81,ETSU 72: Fletcher Magee made six three-pointers and scored 26 points, Cam-



JOHN MINCHILL/AP

Houston's Corey Davis Jr., left, drives past Cincinnati's Rashawn Fredericks in the second half Sunday in Cincinnati. Houston won 85-69.

eron Jackson added 20 points and seven rebounds, and Wofford beat East Tennessee State to advance to the Southern Conference championship game.

Magee, the Southern Conference player of the year, made 10 of 14 shots from the field and 6 of 7 from three-point range, including two on which he twisted almost 180 degrees in the air to get the shot off. Jackson finished 9-for-12 from the floor and was dominant in the second half for the Terriers (28-4).

Top 25 rewind

Shared conference titles abound

By Aaron Beard

Associated Press

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — A full regular-season schedule didn't provide a clear answer as to who is the best team in the majority of the power conference.

No. 2 Virginia and No. 3 North Carolina ended up sharing the Atlantic Coast Conference's regular-season championship. No. 9 Michigan State and No. 11 Purdue split the Big Ten. And in the Big 12, No. 8 Texas Tech and No. 18 Kansas State finished atop the league standings to end No. 13 Kansas' run at the top.

Of the five power conferences, only No. 10 LSU in the Southeastern Conference and Washington in the Pac-12 ended up winning their league races outright.

That was a departure from the previous three years, which had seen the power conferences generally end the regular season with only one team at the top. In each of the past three years, only one of those five leagues ended up with a shared championship.

And that could make it a bit tougher to predict which team ends the season earning the conference's automatic NCAA Tournament bid by winning the league tournament in the week ahead.

Cavs and Heels: The Cavaliers (28-2, 16-2 ACC) clinched the top seed in the ACC Tournament by beating Louisville on Saturday afternoon, while the Tar Heels (26-5, 16-2) ended up as the No. 2 seed after earning their first regular-season sweep of No. 4 Duke



GERRY BRUNO/AP

Injured Duke player Zion Williamson sits on the bench Saturday against North Carolina in Chapel Hill, N.C.

in a decade later that evening.

And now, either Virginia or UNC has won the ACC regular-season crown for six straight seasons. In that span, the Cavaliers have won three outright titles (2014, 2015 and 2018) while the Tar Heels have won two (2016 and 2017).

This year's title marks the first shared regular-season title in the ACC since Duke and Maryland (now in the Big Ten) split it in 2010.

Zion's health: Speaking of Duke, the Blue Devils (26-5, 14-4) appear closer to getting freshman star Zion Williamson back from a knee sprain that has sidelined him for nearly six full games.

Coach Mike Krzyzewski said Friday that the 6-foot-7, 285-pound Williamson had gotten his "first really good workout" on Thursday and now had to improve his conditioning while get-

ting used to contact again.

That test will come Monday, and Krzyzewski sounds optimistic the candidate for national player of the year will be ready for Thursday's quarterfinals in the ACC Tournament.

Hopefully we'll get a couple of good days of practice where he can play 5-on-5, and then we'll see how that goes," Krzyzewski said after the UNC loss. "The way he looks right now, I think it's just a matter of getting in shape, getting in game shape and going forward."

Spartans persevere: Michigan State (25-6, 16-4 Big Ten) has been down two top players in Nick Ward and Joshua Langford because of injuries. Yet Cassius Winston and the Spartans keep winning, beating seventh-ranked Michigan on Saturday to sweep the Wolverines.

That put them in a tie with the Boilermakers (23-8, 16-4), who lost at Minnesota earlier to squander a shot at the outright crown.

It marked the first time the Big Ten had a tie at the top since Ohio State, Michigan and Michigan tied for it in 2012.

LSU's title: In the SEC, LSU (26-5, 16-2) beat Florida in overtime and then beat Vanderbilt to capture that program's first regular-season title in a decade.

Saturday's win against the Commodores came with coach Will Wade suspended indefinitely after reports of a wire-tapped phone call between Wade and a man convicted last year in the federal investigation into corruption within the sport.

Scoreboard

Sunday's men's scores

EAST
Penn St. 72, Illinois 56
SOUTH
SMU 77, South Florida 71
UConn 82, East Carolina 73
MIDWEST
Houston 85, Cincinnati 69
Indiana 89, Rutgers 73
Nebraska 93, Iowa 91, OT
Wisconsin 73, Ohio St. 67, OT

Men's conference tournaments

America East Conference
At Higher-Seeded Schools
Seminials
First Round
Binghamton at Vermont
Hartford at UMass

Atlantic Coast Conference
At Charlotte, N.C.
First Round
Tuesday, March 12
Miami vs. Wake Forest
Georgia Tech vs. Notre Dame
Boston College vs. Pittsburgh

Second Round
Wednesday, March 13
N.C. State vs. Clemson
Virginia Tech vs. Miami/Wake Forest
Louisville vs. Georgia Tech/Notre Dame
Syracuse vs. BC/Pittsburgh

Atlantic Sun Conference
Championship
Sunday, March 10
Liberty 74, Lipscomb 68
Atlantic 10 Conference
At The Barclays Center
New York

First Round
Wednesday, March 13
George Washington vs. UMass
Richmond vs. Fordham

Second Round
Thursday, March 14
Rhode Island vs. La Salle
Marquette vs. St. John's/DePaul
UMass winner
Duquesne vs. Saint Joseph's
St. Louis vs. Richmond/Fordham r

Big East Conference
At New York
First Round
Wednesday, March 13
Providence vs. Butler
St. John's vs. DePaul

Quarterfinals
Thursday, March 14
Villanova vs. Providence/Butler
Xavier vs. Creighton, 2:30 p.m.
Marquette vs. St. John's/DePaul
Seton Hall vs. Georgetown

Big Sky Conference
At Boise, Idaho
First Round
Wednesday, March 13
Northern Arizona vs. Sacramento State

Second Round
Thursday, March 14
Montana State vs. Idaho
Idaho State vs. Weber State
Gardner-Webb vs. Radford 65

Big West Conference
At Anaheim, Calif.
First Round
Thursday, March 14
UC Santa Barbara vs. Cal State Northridge

Second Round
Friday, March 15
California Fullerton vs. UC Davis
Delaware vs. William & Mary 79
Northwestern 89, UC Wilmington 59
College of Charleston 73, Drexel 61

Colonial Athletic Association
At North Charleston, S.C.
Quarterfinals
Sunday, March 10
Hofstra 76, James Madison 67

Second Round
Monday, March 11
Hofstra vs. Delaware
Northwestern vs. College of Charleston

Championship
Tuesday, March 12
Semifinal winners
Conference USA
At Frisco, Texas
Wednesday, March 13
Louisiana Tech vs. FAU

Horizon League
At New Haven, Conn.
First Round
Saturday, March 16
Harvard vs. Pennsylvania
Yale vs. Princeton

Metropolitan Athletic Conference

At Albany, N.Y.
Seminials
Sunday, March 10
Iona 73, Siena 57
Monmouth (N.J.) 73, Canisius 59

Championship
Monday, March 11
Iona vs. Monmouth
Mid-American Conference
First Round
Monday, March 11

Miami at Akron
Western Michigan at Central Michigan
Ohio at Northern Illinois
Ball State at Eastern Michigan
Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference
At Norfolk, Va.
First Round

Monday, March 11
Savannah State vs. Delaware State
Tuesday, March 12
Maryland Eastern Shore vs. S.C. State
Coppin State vs. Morgan State

Missouri Valley Conference
At St. Louis
Championship
Sunday, March 10
Bradley 57, Northern Iowa 54

Mountain West Conference
At Las Vegas
First Round
Wednesday, March 13
Boise State vs. Colorado State
New Mexico vs. Wyoming

Northeast Conference
At Higher-Seeded Schools
Seminials
Saturday, March 9
Fairleigh Dickinson 66, Robert Morris 62

Second Round
Sunday, March 10
Saint Francis (Pa.) 72, LIU Brooklyn 64
Championship
Tuesday, March 12
Fairleigh Dickinson vs. Saint Francis

Ohio Valley Conference
At Evansville, Ind.
First Round
Saturday, March 9
Murray State 75, Belmont 65

Pack 12 Conference
At Las Vegas
Wednesday, March 13
Southern Utah vs. New Mexico
Colorado vs. California

Patrol League
At Higher-Seeded Schools
Seminials
Sunday, March 10
Colgate 80, Navy 70

Championship
Wednesday, March 13
Colgate vs. Bucknell
Southeastern Conference
At Nashville, Tenn.
First Round

Wednesday, March 13
Missouri vs. Georgia
Texas A&M vs. Vanderbilt

Second Round
Thursday, March 14
Florida vs. Arkansas
Auburn vs. Missouri-Georgia
Mississippi vs. Alabama

Mississippi State vs. Texas A&M-Vanderbilt
Southern Conference
At Asheville, N.C.
Semifinals
Sunday, March 10

Wofford at ETSU
UNC Greensboro 66, Furman 62
Championship
Monday, March 11
Wofford vs. UNC Greensboro

Southeastern Conference
At Katy, Texas
Wednesday, March 13
Lamar vs. South Alabama
Texas A&M-Corpus Christi vs. Central Arkansas

Southwestern Athletic Conference
First Round
Tuesday, March 12
Arkansas-Pine Bluff at Grambling

Alcorn State at Prairie View A&M
Alabama State at Jacksonville State
Southern University at Texas Southern
Summit League
At Sioux Falls, S.D.
Semifinals

Monday, March 11
Western Illinois vs. North Dakota St.
Omaha vs. St. Cloud State
Championship
Tuesday, March 12

Semifinal winners
Tues Belt Conference
First Round
Tuesday, March 12
Arkansas State vs. Alabama

Appalachian St. at Louisiana-Monroe
West Coast Conference
At Las Vegas
Third Round
Saturday, March 9
Pepperdine 89, San Francisco 72

Saint Diego
Seminials
Monday, March 11
Gonzaga vs. Pepperdine
Saint Mary's vs. San Diego
Championship
Tuesday, March 12
Semifinal winners
Western Athletic Conference
At Las Vegas
First Round
Thursday, March 14
New Mexico State vs. Chicago State
Texas-Rio Grande Valley vs. Cal State Bakersfield
Utah Valley vs. UMKC
Grand Canyon vs. Seattle

COLLEGE BASKETBALL



JEFF ROBERSON/AP

Bradley's Kech Bar, left, and Elijah Childs celebrate as the final horn sounds in the championship of the Missouri Valley Conference tournament, Sunday. Bradley beat Northern Iowa 57-54.

Bradley rallies from 18-point deficit for Missouri Valley title

By STEVE OVERBEY
Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — A huge rally by Bradley resulted in quite a reward — its first trip to the NCAA Tournament since 2006.

Down by 18 points with 17 minutes left, Elijah Childs and the Braves surged past Northern Iowa 57-54 Sunday in the Missouri Valley Conference championship game.

"You can't make this up," Childs said. "We rode the wave and did the course."

Childs scored 16 points and Dwayne Lautier-Ogunleye added 13 for fifth-seeded Bradley (20-14).

The Braves advanced to the NCAA Tournament for the ninth time overall — in their last appearance, as a 13th seed, they beat Kansas and Pittsburgh before losing to Memphis.

Bradley trailed 35-17 before breaking loose. The Braves used a 12-0 run to get close.

Lugman Lundy had 11 points and eight rebounds as Bradley won the MVC Tournament title for the first time since 1988.

"I knew we would make plays eventually," Lundy said.

Added Childs, "We kept our composure, staying aggressive. If they let us get those same shots we knew they'd fall."

At Green led sixth-seeded Northern Iowa (16-18) with 23 points.

The Panthers took a 48-41 lead on Green's jumper with just over six minutes left. Bradley closed the game on a 16-6 run over the final 5:58.

Childs started the comeback with a short jumper. Lautier-

Ogunleye brought the Braves to within 49-48 with a three-pointer. He then put his team in front to stay with four successive free throws after a dead ball foul against Luke McDonnell led to a four-point play.

Northern Iowa had a chance to go in front, but Green missed a jumper with five seconds left. Lautier-Ogunleye made two foul shots three seconds later.

"[This] was kind of our year summed up in one game," Bradley coach Brian Wardle said. "Staying together, persevering, holding each other accountable. This was a player-led team, not a coach-led team."

Bradley had separate stretches of nearly nine minutes and more than six minutes where it didn't score in the first half, then hit 15 of 26 shots after the break.

Bradley claimed its third MVC crown to go with titles in 1980 and 1988. The Braves hit the 20-win mark for the 27th time in school history and second in a row.

Northern Iowa was on the way to its ninth NCAA Tournament appearance when it took a 38-28 lead midway through the final half.

"Their offense was just better than our defense in that four, five-minute stretch," Northern Iowa coach Ben Jacobson said. "They had some guys hit some big shots."

Explained Green, "The first half was great, we were playing hard, defending. [But] it takes the whole 40 minutes in order to come away with the win."

Bradley had lost its previous three MVC title games in 1996, 2001 and 2006.

The Braves are headed to the NCAA Tournament after winning nine of their last 11 games.

Flames douse heartbreak, top Lipscomb in ASUN final

By TERESA M. WALKER
Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The Liberty Flames didn't talk about missing the NCAA Tournament a year ago on a buzzer-beating three-pointer. Instead, playing again for an automatic berth, junior guard Caleb Homesley wouldn't let them forget.

Scottie James' layup with 55.8 seconds left put Liberty ahead to stay and the Flames capped their first season in a new conference by topping Lipscomb 74-68 Sunday for the ASUN Tournament championship and their first NCAA Tournament trip since 2013.

The win was sweet redemption a year after losing the Big South Conference tournament final at the last second. Homesley insisted that loss to Radford wasn't mentioned before this final.

"But there were times in this game where I kind of rallied the guys together when they would go on a run and just say, 'Let's finish the game. Let's do the hard little things,'" Homesley said. "And I think that it really caught on to do the stretch that we had through the end of the game."

Liberty pulled off a big win at the biggest crowd ever to see a game at Allen Arena, and this thriller featured 18 lead changes in the second half. The Flames won for the second time this season on Lipscomb's home court.

"I'm so proud of our guys the way we weathered the storm," Liberty coach Ritchie McKay said. "I think this is just one of those games that you needed a break or two down the stretch, and we were fortunate to get one."

Liberty (28-6) switched to the ASUN Conference for this season and split the regular season title with Lipscomb. The Flames earned their fourth NCAA Tournament bid overall and first since playing in the Big South.

The Flames were up 29-28 at halftime and never led by more than four until the final seconds.

Garrison Mathews, the ASUN player of the year, made a pair of free throws with 1:31 left to give Lipscomb its last lead at 66-65. James then scored, and Georgie Pacheco-Ortiz hit a three with 14.8 seconds remaining for a 70-65 lead. James added two free throws with 8.4 seconds, and Homesley finished it off with two more on the clock.

That started the celebration with senior Lovell Cabill Jr. and Pacheco-Ortiz on their knees pounding the court before being smothered by their teammates.



MARK HUMPHREY/AP

Liberty's Caleb Homesley, left, and Elijah Cuffee celebrate in the final seconds of their win over Lipscomb in the Atlantic Sun tournament championship game on Sunday.

James led Liberty with 17 points. Pacheco-Ortiz added 16, Cabill had 14 and Homesley 11.

Lipscomb (25-7) was trying to seal its second NCAA Tournament berth.

"They've had an incredible year," McKay said of Lipscomb. "I think they're NCAA Tournament at-large worthy, and I'm not just saying that because they're in the same league. Having been at Virginia for six years, I know what an NCAA Tournament team looks like and that's one of them."

Gardner-Webb earns first NCAA bid

By HANK KURZ JR.
Associated Press

RADFORD, Va. — DJJ Laster's best game ensued it wouldn't be his last.

Laster scored a career-high 32 points and Gardner-Webb took command with a first-half run and beat Radford 76-65 on Sunday to win the Big South Tournament championship and earn its first trip to the NCAA Tournament.

Laster was dominant throughout, making 14 of 17 shots and grabbing six rebounds.

"I just knew I had to play hard, needed to play hard," he said, a piece of the championship net stuck inside the adjustable strap on his championship cap. "I just wanted to leave my legacy on the court, leave it all out there, so I just came with that mindset from the jump ball."

Laster had 30 of the Runnin' Bulldogs' first 44 points, including the last five during a 12-0 first-half run and seven during a 13-5 second-half run that gave them a 46-33 lead.

"I just felt I couldn't miss," Laster said.

It seemed that way to the Highlanders, too. "He just dominated the paint and his teammates got him the ball in good positions," said Ed Polite Jr., the Big South defensive player of the year. "Once he

got hot and gained confidence, it was hard to take that from him."

Gardner-Webb (23-11) saw its lead shrink to five several times, but each time it scored the next points to hold off the Highlanders. The first time, Jose Perez fed Laster inside for a bucket. Next, David Efiyanai hit a jumper. Then Jose Perez hit one of the Bulldogs' five three-pointers.

Donald Hicks had 17 points, Polite 15 and Carlit Jones 14 for Radford (22-11), which was trying to win its fourth conference title and seeking a repeat of last season, when it followed a dramatic championship victory with its first win in an NCAA Tournament game.

The Highlanders never fully recovered after going scoreless for 8:08 in the first half as the Bulldogs built a 20-7 lead. They closed to within five by halftime and again in the second half but couldn't stop the fourth-seeded Bulldogs, who earned their spot in the championship by knocking off top-seeded Campbell on Friday night.

"They were locked in," said Radford coach Mike Jones, whose team beat Gardner-Webb 75-58 during the season. "They set the tone right from the beginning. They established Laster right from the beginning and it was hard to shut that water off once it started running."

SPORTS



Mounting Madness
Liberty, Bradley, Gardner-Webb
secure bids » **College Hoops, Page 31**

MLB

Far from DONE

Reclamation projects abound
at big league spring training

By DAVE SKRETTA
Associated Press

Kyle Zimmer remembers the feeling of failure and frustration that washed over him while standing on the mound in spring training, his fastball topping out at 82 mph and his arm feeling as if it was flying to home plate right along with the ball.

The fifth pick of the Kansas City Royals in the 2012 draft had gone through elbow surgery. Biceps tendinitis. Shoulder surgery. Thoracic outlet surgery. More shoulder soreness and fatigue.

Standing on a mound? He might as well have been standing in a hospital. He'd seen plenty of them.

SEE DONE ON PAGE 29

The Royals' Kyle Zimmer, back, and Bubba Starling, front, were both once high draft picks. Now they're fighting just to earn a spot on a major league roster.

AP photos



Kyle Busch completes weekend sweep » Auto Racing, Page 28

